OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

JANUARY 2012

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 9

Song 53 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 15 ¶8-12, box on p. 118 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 29-33 (10 min.)
No. 1: Isaiah 30:15-26 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Were Humans Made to Live Briefly and Then Die?—*rs* p. 245 ¶1–p. 246 ¶2 (5 min.)
No. 3: How Can Imperfect Humans Sanctify Jehovah's Name?—Matt. 6:9 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 61
***5* min: Announcements.**
10 min: Preach to Those Who Speak Another Language. Talk based on page 2 of the booklet *Good News for People of All Nations.* Have a demonstration showing how to use the booklet.
10 min: Evidence of the Bible's Inspiration. Discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 60, paragraph 3, to page 64, paragraph 3.
10 min: "Direct Your Blows Wisely." Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 2, briefly interview the service overseer regarding where people can be found in the local territory during various times of the day and days of the week.
Song 115 and Prayer

Direct Your Blows Wisely

[1] The apostle Paul wrote: "The way I am running is not uncertainly; the way I am directing my blows is so as not to be striking the air." (1 Cor. 9:26) Paul was referring to his single-mindedness and sharp focus in pursuing spiritual goals. However, in principle, these words also apply to the ministry. We want to direct our "blows," or efforts, wisely so that they will accomplish the most good. How?

1. First Corinthians 9:26 has what application to the ministry?

[2] **Go Where the People Are:** Paul and other first-century evangelizers preached where they expected people to be. (Acts 5:42; 16:13; 17:17) So if many in our territory are at home in the evening, this may be the best time to go from house to house. Is the local bus or train station busy in the early mornings and late afternoons when people are going to work or returning home? When are the shopping areas in the territory filled with people? Street witnessing may be most productive during these times.

[3] **Work the Territory Wisely:** Care should also be taken to direct our blows wisely in the way we work our territory. For example, instead of taking a very large group into the same area, where much time and effort will be required to keep the group organized and busy, it may be better to divide the group. Similarly, when working rural territory, we will cover the territory faster and have more opportunities to speak if car groups are not too large. Could we obtain a personal territory near our home, which would reduce the time needed for travel?

[4] Jesus likened evangelizers to "fishers of men." (Mark 1:17) A fisherman's objective is not simply to fish but to *catch* fish. Therefore, successful fishermen go where and when they expect to find fish, and they begin fishing without delay. Yes, they direct their efforts wisely. May we show similar industriousness in our ministry.—Heb. 6:11.

2. How can we imitate Paul and other first-century evangelizers in selecting when and where to preach?
3. How can we direct our blows wisely in the way we work our territory?
4. What will help us to be successful "fishers of men"?

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 16

Song 98 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 15 box on p. 121 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 34-37 (10 min.)
No. 1: Isaiah 35:1-10 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Jehovah Is Deserving of Our Trust—Ps. 25:1-5 (5 min.)
No. 3: On What Basis Can We Hope to Live Forever?—*rs* p. 246 ¶5-7 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 2
***5 min:* Announcements.**
15 min: Discern the Questioner's Viewpoint. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 66, paragraph 1, to page 68, paragraph 3. Have a brief demonstration of a publisher soliloquizing about the likely views and concerns of a householder who has just asked a question; the publisher then gives a good reply.
15 min: Maintain Your Conduct Fine Among the Nations. (1 Pet. 2:12) Discussion based on the *2011 Yearbook,* page 124, paragraphs 1-2, and page 150, paragraphs 1-6. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.
Song 97 and Prayer

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 23

Song 89 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 15 ¶13-20 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 38-42 (10 min.)
No. 1: Isaiah 39:1–40:5 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: How Will Prospects for Future Life Be Realized?—*rs* p. 246 ¶8–p. 247 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: The Superiority of Divine Education—Phil. 3:8 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 69
10 min: Announcements. Mention the literature offer for February, and have one or two presentations demonstrated.
10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Mark 10:17-30 read. Consider how these verses can help us in our ministry.
15 min: "Preach to 'People of All Sorts.'" Questions and answers. Discuss the purpose of each brochure shown in the supplement. Then choose two brochures that may benefit people in the territory. Discuss features of both brochures, and demonstrate how each may be offered.
Song 112 and Prayer

Preach to "People of All Sorts"

1 A skilled craftsman has many tools, and he knows when and how to use each one. Similarly, we have various tools to help us fulfill our work as evangelizers. For example, brochures on a variety of subjects have been produced to help us preach to "people of all sorts." (1 Cor. 9:22) The enclosed supplement lists some of these brochures, explains whom they were designed for, and suggests how the brochures might be offered.

2 **When to Use Brochures:** A craftsman will use a tool whenever it is beneficial. Similarly, we may offer a brochure whenever we feel someone would benefit, not just during months when it is the literature offer. For example, if the offer is the *Bible Teach* book and we are preaching in a non-Christian land where people have little interest in the Bible, it may be beneficial to offer an appropriate brochure and then introduce the *Bible Teach* book after we have cultivated the person's interest.

3 The Scriptures speak well of those who are skillful in their work. (Prov. 22:29) Certainly, no work is more important today than "the holy work of the good news." (Rom. 15:16) In order to be "a workman with nothing to be ashamed of," we will endeavor to become adept at using our tools.—2 Tim. 2:15.

1. How are effective evangelizers like skilled craftsmen?
2. When may we use brochures in the ministry?
3. Why should we become adept at using our witnessing tools?

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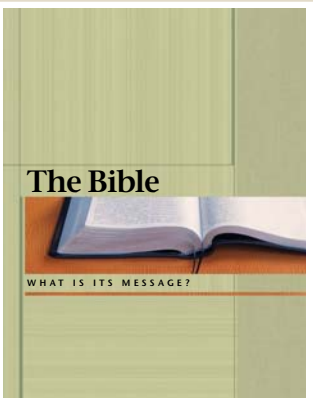
SAVE

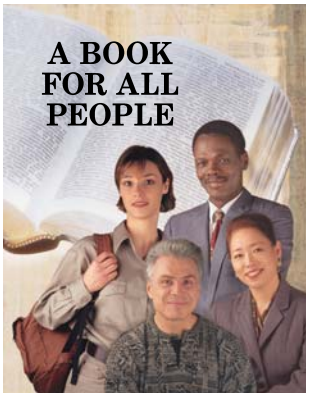
Are You Using These Brochures?



Designed to appeal to **those who know little about the Bible, especially those in non-Christian religions**

How to offer it: "We would like to get your opinion on what is stated here in the Scriptures (or in this holy book). [Read Psalm 37:11, which is referred to in section 11.] What do you think the earth will be like when this prophecy is fulfilled? [Allow for response.] This is an example of the hope and comfort that people of all cultures and faiths can receive from the Bible." Read the paragraph at the top of page 3, and offer the brochure.

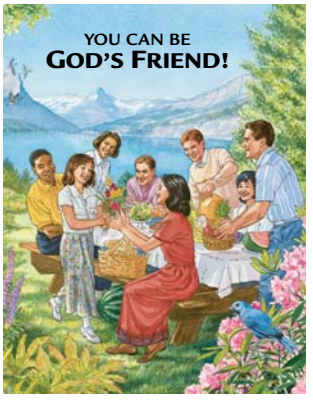
You might try this: If you are conducting a Bible study in the *Bible Teach* book with a person from a non-Christian religion, take a few minutes at the beginning or end of each study to consider one section of this brochure to give him an overview of the Bible.



Designed to appeal to **educated people who know little about the Bible**

How to offer it: Read 2 Timothy 3:16, 17. Then say: "Do you agree with this, that the Bible is inspired of God? Or do you think that it is simply a good book? [Allow for response.] Most people have an opinion on this question, but we have found that few have actually examined the Bible for themselves. [Read the experience under the title on page 3.] This interesting brochure outlines good reasons for people of all backgrounds and faiths to consider what the Bible contains."

You might try this: If the householder accepts the brochure, say: "One reason that many people think the Bible has little to offer is because religion has misrepresented the Bible and its teachings. When I come back, I'd like to give you an example." When you return, consider some of the information from pages 4-5.



Designed to appeal to **those with limited education or reading ability**

How to offer it: "Do you think it is possible for us to become friends of God? [Allow for response. Then read James 2:23.] This brochure has been designed to help us become God's friend, as Abraham was."

You might try this: Either on the initial call or the return visit, demonstrate a Bible study by discussing together all or part of lesson 1.

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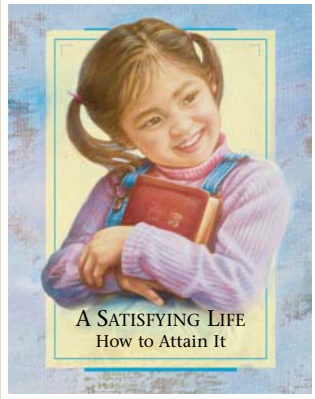
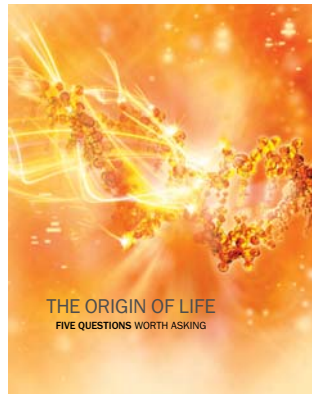


Designed to appeal to **those who are secular, nonreligious**

How to offer it: "We are calling because many people would like to find more satisfaction in life. All of us experience problems that can bring unhappiness. When we do, we may look for advice from a trusted relative or friend or use the library or the Internet. What have you found to be a good resource for advice? [Allow for response.] Some have been surprised to find practical advice in the Bible. Here is an example. [Show the householder chapter 2, and read one of the quoted texts.] This brochure is designed to explain how we can attain a more satisfying life."

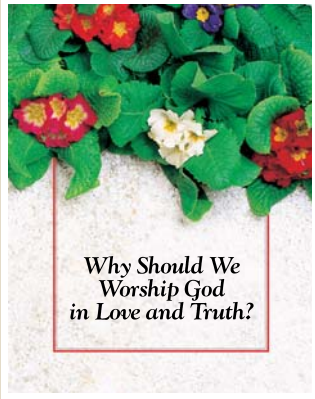
You might try this: If the householder accepts the brochure, say: "Many have heard that the Bible is filled with inaccuracies. When I come back, I would like to show you an example of the Bible's scientific accuracy that may intrigue you." When you return consider paragraph 4 on page 12.



Designed for **Christian youths who are being taught evolution in school and is also helpful when reasoning with evolutionists, agnostics, and atheists** (This brochure is not designed to be offered from house-to-house.)

How to use it when speaking to an evolutionist or an atheist: "Virtually all science textbooks today teach evolution. Do you believe that evolution is a theory, or do you think that it has now been established as fact? [Allow for response.] To make an informed decision, I'm sure you will agree that we should examine both sides of a matter. This brochure presents some of the evidence that has led many to believe that life was created."

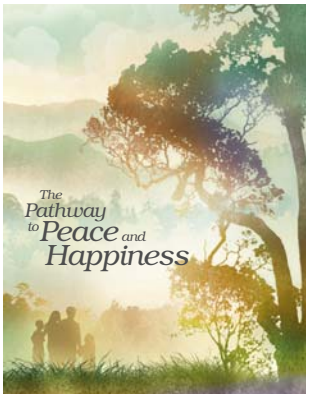
You might try this: If you go to school, leave the brochure out on your desk and see if it piques the curiosity of any classmates.



Designed to appeal to **Hindus**

How to offer it: "A well-known Indian prayer says: 'From delusion lead me to truth. From darkness lead me to light.' Do you think it is important to worship God in love and truth? [Allow for response.] Notice what Jesus said about this." Read John 4:24. Then read paragraph 4 on page 3 and offer the brochure.

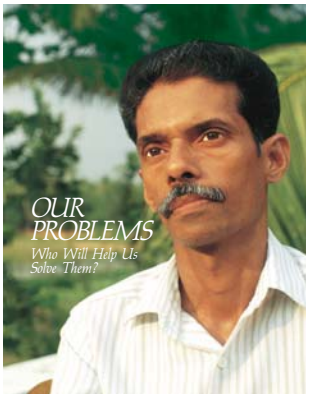
You might try this: If the householder accepts the brochure, say: "Some Hindu sages say that the truth is hidden in our hearts. Others say that truth is found in sacred scripture. Next time, I would like to discuss a question raised at the end of paragraph 3 on page 4: 'Where should we look to find divine truth?' "



Designed to appeal to **Buddhists**

How to offer it to an older person who is a Buddhist: "Perhaps you are as concerned as I am about the current flood of degraded ideas and the effect that these are having on our children. Why, do you think, is there such an increase in immorality among young people? [Allow for response.] Did you know that this was foretold in a book that started to be written long before the founding of the Christian, Hindu, and Muslim religions? [Read 2 Timothy 3:1-3.] Note that these conditions prevail despite continuous learning. [Read verse 7.] The information in this publication helped me to understand truths that most people never learn. Would you like to read it?"

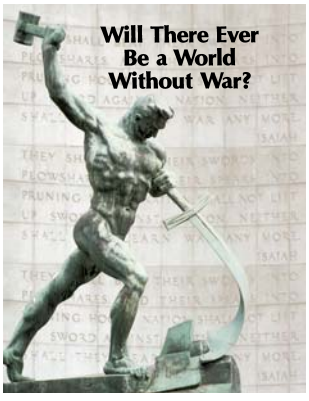
You might try this: On a future return visit, after cultivating the householder's interest in the Bible, show him the questions on the back cover, and point out the coupon for the *Bible Teach* book. Explain that you brought along a copy if he wants to see it. Show him the book's table of contents, and consider a paragraph or two in the chapter of his choosing.



Designed to appeal to **Hindus**

How to offer it: "Many people whom we have talked to are distressed by the wickedness they see in the world. Do you think that God will one day rid this world of its problems? [Allow for response.] This prophecy gives hope. [Read Psalm 37:11.] What I just read is from the Bible, a book that has often been misunderstood and misused. You may be surprised to know that the Bible is not a Western book; it does not promote colonialism or the superiority of one race over another. But it does give us hope that God will soon remove our problems. It also contains principles that can help us manage our problems right now. This brochure provides more information."

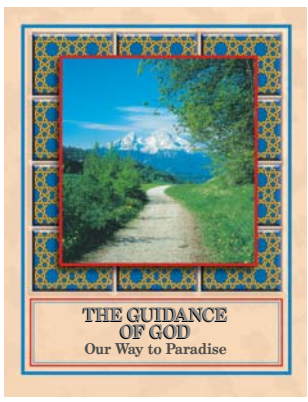
You might try this: On a future return visit, after cultivating the householder's interest in the Bible, show him the pictures on pages 4-5 of the *Bible Teach* book. Read at least one of the quoted scriptures and offer the book.



Designed to appeal to **Jews**

How to offer it: "Throughout history humans have experienced much suffering as a result of war. Why, do you think, do we continue to have wars even though people say they want peace? [Allow for response.] This prophecy from Isaiah gives hope. [Read Isaiah 2:4.] However, this raises several questions: When and how will Isaiah's prophecy be fulfilled? Why can we trust the Scriptures to be a reliable source of hope? This brochure answers these questions."

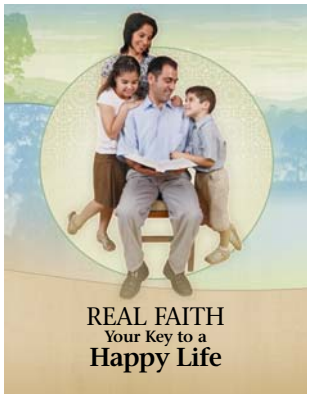
You might try this: If the brochure is accepted, refer the householder to pages 16-17 and say: "Many point to atrocities such as the Holocaust and ask, 'If God exists, why does he permit suffering?' We can discuss this when I return."



Designed to appeal to **Muslims who live in an environment where they may feel free to study the Bible**

How to offer it: "I understand that Muslims believe in one true God and in all the prophets. Is that correct? [Allow for response.] I would like to talk with you about an ancient prophecy that foretells the transformation of the earth into a paradise. May I read to you what the prophet wrote? [Read Isaiah 11:6-9.] Many have wondered just how God will bring such changes to the earth. This brochure shows what the prophets say on this subject."

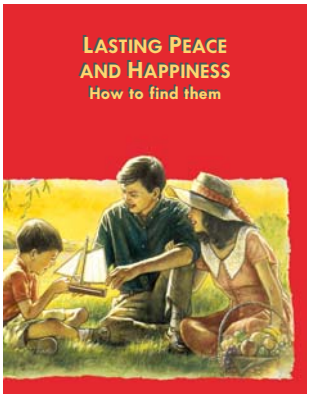
You might try this: If the householder accepts the brochure, say: "This book of God explains that in the beginning, man lived in paradise. The next time we talk, I would like to answer this question, 'How did man turn away from God's guidance and lose paradise?' " When you return, discuss the beginning of the unit that starts on page 6.



Designed to appeal to **Muslims who live in an environment where they may feel free to study the Bible**

How to offer it: Show the picture on pages 16-17 and say: "This scene is much different from what we see in the world today. Do you think it's possible for the world to become like this one day? [Allow for response.] Notice what this book of God promises. [Read one of the quoted scriptures from your Bible.] This brochure helps us to cultivate real faith that such promises will come true."

You might try this: At the end of the initial call, ask the householder to choose one of the questions on the back cover. Then make arrangements to discuss the answer from the brochure when you return.



Designed to appeal to **Chinese**

How to offer it: "Today life has many challenges that can rob us of happiness. What helps you to be happy despite problems? [Allow for response.] Many people have found happiness from following the counsel of the Bible. [Read Psalm 119:1, 2.] Some dismiss the Bible as a Western book. But notice this. [Consider paragraph 16 on page 17.] This brochure discusses how we can find lasting peace and happiness."

You might try this: If the householder accepts the brochure, read together the first three sentences of paragraph 18 on page 17 and say: "When I return, I would like to show you what we can look forward to according to the Bible." When you return, consider one of the points in paragraph 6 on page 30.

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 30

Song 30 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 16 ¶1-7, box on p. 128 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 43-46 (10 min.)
No. 1: Isaiah 45:15-25 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: How God's Patience Leads to Salvation—2 Pet. 3:9, 15 (5 min.)
No. 3: Is It Important to Get Married in Accord With Legal Requirements?—*rs* p. 248 ¶2–p. 249 ¶2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 87
***5 min:* Announcements.** Using the sample presentation on page 4, demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in February.
10 min: What Should I Know About Social Networking?—Part 1. Talk based on the July 2011 *Awake!* pages 24-27 and February 2012 *Awake!* pages 6-7.
20 min: "Are You Prepared for a Medical Emergency?" Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion.
Song 116 and Prayer

Are You Prepared for a Medical Emergency?

A medical emergency can occur suddenly and without warning. (Jas. 4:14) Therefore, one who is shrewd will prepare as much as possible. (Prov. 22:3) Have you decided what medical treatments and procedures you will accept, and have you put your decision in writing? To help you, the video *Transfusion-Alternative Health Care—Meeting Patient Needs and Rights,* the second presentation on the DVD entitled *Transfusion-Alternatives—Documentary Series,* has been produced. As you watch it, see if you can answer the following questions. Because the video includes brief surgical scenes, parents should use discretion in viewing it with young children.

(1) Why are some in the medical community reevaluating the use of blood transfusions? **(2)** Give three examples of complex surgeries that have been performed without blood transfusions. **(3)** Why are thousands of physicians and surgeons worldwide willing to treat patients without blood transfusions? **(4)** What have recent hospital studies revealed about blood use? **(5)** What are the medical risks associated with blood transfusions? **(6)** What have many experts concluded regarding the benefits of transfusion alternatives? **(7)** What causes anemia, and what can be done to compensate for it? **(8)** How can red-cell production be stimulated in a patient's body? **(9)** What techniques are being used to minimize blood loss during surgery? **(10)** Can transfusion alternatives work for young children or for people involved in life-threatening emergencies? **(11)** What is one of the primary ethical principles of good medical care?

Have you decided what medical treatments and procedures you will accept and put this in writing?

Since acceptance of some of the treatments featured in the video is a matter of conscience, do not wait until you are faced with an emergency to consider what you will or will not accept. Chapter 7 of the *"God's Love"* book and the cited references as well as the insert in the November 2006 issue of *Our Kingdom Ministry* will help you make informed decisions. Then, if you are baptized, indicate your choices on the DPA card, and carry the card with you at all times.

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 6

Song 101 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 16 ¶8-12, box on p. 132 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Isaiah 47-51 (10 min.)

No. 1: Isaiah 51:1-11 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: The First Wedding Involved What Formalities?—*rs* p. 249 ¶3-4 (5 min.)

No. 3: Why Would a God of Love Destroy *Any* Humans?—2 Thess. 1:6-9 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 36

5 min: Announcements.

10 min: What Should I Know About Social Networking?—Part 2. Talk based on the August 2011 *Awake!* pages 10-13 and February 2012 *Awake!* pages 8-9.

10 min: Local needs.

10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in February. Discussion. Take one to two minutes to point out a few of the articles that may have appeal in your territory. Next, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.

Song 96 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **January:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **February:** *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?, The Bible—God's Word or Man's?,* or *The Secret of Family Happiness.* **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **April:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* and endeavor to start a Bible study. When making return visits on those who attended the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associating with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book.

■ Starting in February, the new public talk for the circuit overseers will be "Is Your Confidence in Jehovah?"

■ Beginning with the February 1, 2012, issue, the public edition of *The Watchtower* will include a series entitled "My Bible Lessons." Designed for parents to use with children who are three years of age and younger, it will alternate with the series "Teach Your Children" and "For Young People."

■ The branch facilities in Brooklyn, Patterson, and Wallkill, New York, will be closed for spring cleaning on Friday, May 11, 2012. There will be no arrangements for tours or for congregations to pick up literature on this day.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in February

"Do you think that God has an organization today, or do you think that he deals only with individuals? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says about a people whom God organized many years ago." Turn to page 16 of the February 1 issue of *The Watchtower,* and consider together the material under the first subheading and at least one of the cited scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return and discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM February 1

"Armageddon has been the subject of much discussion in recent years. Do you think there is anything mankind can do to prevent Armageddon from occurring? [Allow for response.] Here is where the term 'Armageddon' comes from. [Read Revelation 16:16. Then show the cover of the magazine.] This magazine gives the Bible's answer to these questions."

Awake!® February

Today many enjoy communicating online. Do you think this type of communication has risks? [Allow for response.] The Bible contains principles that can make our online experience safer. [Turn to pages 6-9, and discuss one of the questions and a cited scripture.] This magazine will help you identify and avoid the dangers associated with online communication."

Field Service Highlights

We are thrilled to report three new peaks for August 2011! Bermuda reported 513 total publishers, an increase of 22 over the previous peak in August 2009. The Turks and Caicos Islands reported 299 total publishers, an increase of 4 over the previous peak in February 2011. The United States reported 1,200,572 total publishers, an increase of 16,323 over the previous peak in April 2011. How blessed we are to be God's fellow workers during the time of the harvest! —1 Cor. 3:6-9.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

FEBRUARY 2012

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 13

Song 7 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 16 ¶13-18 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 52-57 (10 min.)
No. 1: Isaiah 56:1-12 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: How Does Peter's Example of Loyalty Benefit Us?—John 6:68, 69 (5 min.)
No. 3: Does the Bible Condone Polygamy? —*rs* p. 250 ¶1–p. 251 ¶2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 117
***5* min: Announcements.**
10 min: Develop Ability as a Teacher —Part 1. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 56, paragraph 1, to page 57, paragraph 2.
10 min: God Makes It Grow. (1 Cor. 3:6) Discussion based on the *2011 Yearbook,* page 55, paragraphs 1-2, and page 138, paragraphs 3-4. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.
10 min: "Plan Now to Expand Your Ministry." Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 3, invite the service overseer to outline local arrangements for meetings for field service during March, April, and May.
Song 107 and Prayer

Plan Now to Expand Your Ministry

1 Each Memorial season gives us new opportunities to "laud Jehovah very much." (Ps. 109:30) Will you expand your ministry during March as one way to show appreciation to the ransom Provider? Now is the time to begin making plans.—Prov. 21:5.

1. What is something significant about the Memorial season, and how can we prepare for it?

2 **Auxiliary Pioneering:** Last year congregations were abuzz with excitement when they learned of the provision to auxiliary pioneer in April with a reduced hour requirement. One brother wrote: "I am still in high school, and I have not found it possible for me to regular pioneer. But I am going to apply for 30 hours and strive for 50 hours in the month of April." A sister who works full-time wrote: "Thirty hours—that is so very achievable!" When this provision was announced, one former pioneer, now in her 80's, said: "This is the moment I've been waiting for! Jehovah knew pioneering was the best time of my life!" Others who could not auxiliary pioneer set goals to do more in the ministry.

3 March will be an excellent month to auxiliary pioneer because we will again have the option of a 30- or a 50-hour requirement. In addition, beginning Saturday, March 17, we will participate in a special campaign to invite others to join us for the Memorial on April 5. Many will enjoy their enlarged share in the ministry so much that they will want to auxiliary pioneer in April and May too, with a 50-hour requirement.

4 During your next Family Worship evening, why not discuss how each one in the family can expand his ministry during the Memorial season? (Prov. 15:22) Ask Jehovah to bless your efforts. (1 John 3:22) As you enlarge your share in the ministry, not only will you add to your praise of Jehovah but you will also increase your joy.—2 Cor. 9:6.

2. How did you and others respond to the provision of a reduced hour requirement for auxiliary pioneers last April?
3. What reasons are there to consider auxiliary pioneering during March, April, and May?
4. How can we enlarge our share in the ministry, and with what result?

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 20

Song 37 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 17 ¶1-7 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 58-62 (10 min.)
No. 1: Isaiah 61:1-11 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Why Is Dedication an Act of Love and Faith? (5 min.)
No. 3: What Is God's View of Marital Separation?—*rs* p. 251 ¶3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 87
10 min: Announcements. Mention the literature offer for March, and have one presentation demonstrated.
10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Psalm 63:3-8 and Mark 1:32-39 read. Consider how these verses can help us in our ministry.
15 min: "The Campaign to Advertise the Memorial Begins March 17." Questions and answers. Give all in attendance an invitation, if available, and discuss its contents. When considering paragraph 2, have a brief demonstration showing how the invitation could be offered. When considering paragraph 3, invite the service overseer to outline how the local territory will be covered.
Song 8 and Prayer

The Campaign to Advertise the Memorial Begins March 17

[1] The Memorial observance each year serves to proclaim the death of Jesus. (1 Cor. 11:26) Therefore, we want others to attend with us and hear about Jehovah's loving gift of the ransom. (John 3:16) This year our campaign to invite people to come to the Memorial will begin on Saturday, March 17. Are you looking forward to having a full share?

1. What campaign will begin on March 17?

[2] **What We Could Say:** It is best to have a brief presentation. We might say: "Hello. We're here to give your family this invitation to an important annual observance that will be held worldwide on April 5. A free Bible talk will be given that explains what Jesus' death accomplished and what he is doing now. This invitation shows the address and time of the meeting being held in our community." When sharing in the distribution on the weekends, we should also offer the magazines when appropriate.

[3] **Invite as Many as Possible:** Our goal is to invite as many people as possible. So make sure to invite your Bible students, return visits, relatives, workmates, schoolmates, neighbors, and other acquaintances. The local elders will provide direction on how to cover your territory. Our annual campaign to invite people to the Memorial produces results. When a woman walked into the auditorium last year, an attendant offered to help her find the publisher who invited her. However, the woman said that she did not know anyone there and that she received her invitation from someone going from house to house earlier that day.

[4] Perhaps someone in attendance at your Memorial will be there because of an invitation left by you. Whether someone responds or not, your diligent efforts will still provide a witness. The invitations you distribute will proclaim that Jesus is now a powerful King. Your zealous participation will demonstrate to all observers—those in the territory, fellow publishers, and most importantly, Jehovah—that you deeply appreciate the gift of the ransom.—Col. 3:15.

2. What could we say to present the invitation?
3. How may we invite as many people as possible?
4. What reasons are there to have a zealous share in the campaign?

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WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 27

Song 135 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 17 ¶8-14, box on p. 137 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Isaiah 63-66 (10 min.)
Theocratic Ministry School Review (20 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 114
10 min: Announcements. Using the sample presentation on page 4, demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in March.
20 min: Help Those Who Lack Faith in the Bible. Discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, pages 64-68. Include one or two demonstrations.
***5* min: "Would You Benefit From the Simplified Edition?"** Talk. The brother assigned this part should print out two copies of the simplified edition from the *jw.org* Web site. [This may be found under "Latest Magazines (English)." He should select *"Watchtower* (*Simplified*)" in the PDF format.] These should be displayed for several weeks at the magazine counter for publishers to examine.
Song 100 and Prayer

Would You Benefit From the Simplified Edition?

The study edition of *The Watchtower* is now available in a simplified English edition. This edition is provided for (1) English-speaking publishers who would benefit from simplified wording, perhaps because of limited education; (2) publishers whose first language is not English; (3) young people, including those in elementary and middle school; and (4) Bible students who need simpler, more direct language to understand spiritual matters.

The paragraph numbers, questions, and headings correspond to the standard edition. The material is exactly the same, but the wording is simpler. Although the *Watchtower* Study conductor and reader will use the standard edition unless most in the audience are using the simplified edition, those using the simplified edition will see the same cited scriptures and the same illustrations and will be able to follow the reading of the paragraphs and to share in commenting.

Any who feel they would benefit should place a standing request with the magazine servant.

Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning February 27, 2012. The date when each point is scheduled for discussion is included so that research can be done when preparing for the school each week.

1. Is it correct to say that Jehovah's mercy tempers his justice? (Isa. 30:18) [Jan. 9, *w02* 3/1 p. 30]
2. What lesson can we learn from the dismissal of Shebna as Hezekiah's steward? (Isa. 36:2, 3, 22) [Jan. 16, *w07* 1/15 p. 8 par. 6]
3. What can we learn from the account at Isaiah 37:1, 14-20 about dealing with distress? [Jan. 16, *w07* 1/15 p. 9 pars. 1-2]
4. How does the illustration used at Isaiah 40:31 provide encouragement for Jehovah's servants? [Jan. 23, *w96* 6/15 pp. 10-11]
5. In view of what impending attack are Jehovah's words recorded at Isaiah 41:14 particularly encouraging today? [Jan. 23, *ip-2* p. 24 par. 16]
6. How do we show Jehovah that we are "pursuing after righteousness"? (Isa. 51:1) [Feb. 6, *ip-2* p. 165 par. 2]
7. Who are "the many" mentioned at Isaiah 53:12, and what heartwarming lesson do we learn about Jehovah from the way he deals with them? [Feb. 13, *ip-2* p. 213 par. 34]
8. What have Jehovah's people experienced during the last days that was symbolically described in Isaiah 60:17? [Feb. 20, *ip-2* p. 316 par. 22]
9. What is the significance of "the year of goodwill" that Jesus and his followers were commissioned to proclaim? (Isa. 61:2) [Feb. 20, *ip-2* pp. 324-325 pars. 7-8]
10. What marvelous quality of Jehovah is highlighted by the words of Isaiah 63:9? [Feb. 27, *w03* 7/1 p. 19 pars. 22-23]

WEEK STARTING MARCH *5*

Song 103 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 17 ¶15-19 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Jeremiah 1-4 (10 min.)

No. 1: Jeremiah 3:14-25 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why We Proudly Bear Jehovah's Name—Isa. 43:12 (5 min.)

No. 3: What Is the Bible's View of Divorce and Remarriage?—*rs* p. 252 ¶1-4 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 94

***5* min: Announcements.**

10 min: Benefit From *Examining the Scriptures Daily—2012*. Briefly consider the foreword by means of a talk. Then invite audience to relate when they have set aside time to consider the text and how they have benefited. Conclude by discussing the yeartext for 2012.

10 min: Local needs.

10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in March. Discussion. Take one to two minutes to point out a few of the articles that may have appeal in your territory. Next, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.

Song 75 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **February:** *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?, The Bible—God's Word or Man's?,* or *The Secret of Family Happiness.* **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **April and May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* and endeavor to start a Bible study. When making return visits on those who attended the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associating with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book.

■ The special talk will be given on the weekend after the Memorial and is entitled "Is It Later Than You Think?"

■ Whenever personal travel plans include visiting a land that is not listed separately in the current service year report or whose address is not listed on the last page of the latest *Yearbook,* please contact your branch office to ascertain what precautions or special instructions may need to be followed. The Kingdom work in that area may be under certain restrictions. (Matt. 10:16) In some lands it may not be advisable for visitors to make contact with local Witnesses or congregations. Other direction may be provided to you regarding informal witnessing or carrying supplies of literature. Your cooperation with the direction provided will prevent unnecessary problems for you or for the Kingdom work in the country you visit.—1 Cor. 14:33, 40.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in March

"Many people celebrate Jesus' birth, but do you think it's important to remember Jesus' death?" Allow for response. Then hand the householder the March 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together the material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the scriptures. Arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® March 1

"There are many churches and denominations with various beliefs and practices. Do you think that everyone who claims to be Christian is really a Christian? [Allow for response.] According to Jesus, this is one identifying mark of true Christians. [Read John 13:34, 35.] This magazine discusses five statements of Jesus that help us to identify his true followers."

Awake!® March

"We're talking to our neighbors about a disturbing trend. It seems that people today are increasingly angry and quick to lose their temper. What do you think is the cause? [Allow for response.] Notice something the Bible says about anger. [Read Psalm 37:8.] This magazine outlines some of the reasons for increased anger today as well as ways we can keep our anger under control."

Field Service Highlights

The following all-time peaks in regular pioneers were reported for the month of September 2011: 142,354 in the United States, 170 in the Bahamas, and 39 in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Additionally, there was an increase of 11 percent in Bible studies conducted in Bermuda during the same month. What a fine effort is being made to show others that Jehovah's Word is truth!—John 17:17.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

MARCH 2012

WEEK STARTING MARCH 12

Song 40 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 18 ¶1-5, boxes on pp. 142, 144 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 5-7 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 5:15-25 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: In the Past Why Did God Allow Marriage Between Brother and Sister?—*rs* p. 252 ¶5–p. 253 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: How Does Jehovah Protect His People From Spiritual Dangers? (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 63
5 min: Announcements.
10 min: Develop Ability as a Teacher —Part 2. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 57, paragraph 3, to the subheading on page 59.
10 min: Always Offer to God a Sacrifice of Praise. (Heb. 13:15) Discussion based on the *2011 Yearbook,* page 59, paragraphs 1-2, and page 70, paragraph 7. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.
10 min: "Keep Doing This." Questions and answers. Inform the congregation of the time and location of the Memorial.
Song 109 and Prayer

"Keep Doing This"
Memorial to Be Observed on April 5

1 "Keep doing this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19) With those words, Jesus commanded his followers to commemorate his sacrificial death. In view of all that the ransom accomplished, there is no day more important or precious for Christians than the annual Memorial observance. As this year's observance on April 5 approaches, how may we show our thankfulness to Jehovah?—Col. 3:15.

2 **Prepare:** We normally prepare for the things that we consider important. We can prepare our hearts for the Memorial by considering as a family the events that occurred during Jesus' final days on earth and by meditating on them. (Ezra 7:10) A partial list of scriptures is found in the calendar and in *Examining the Scriptures Daily,* whereas a more complete listing, along with corresponding chapters from the *Greatest Man* book, is located on pages 23-24 of the February 1, 2011, issue of *The Watchtower.*

3 **Preach:** We can also demonstrate our appreciation by having a full share in the ministry. (Luke 6:45) A worldwide campaign to invite others to the Memorial will begin on Saturday, March 17. Could you adjust your schedule to spend more time in the ministry, perhaps as an auxiliary pioneer? Why not discuss it as a family during your next Family Worship evening?

4 How we are benefited by sharing in the Memorial observance each year! Our joy and our love for God increase as we reflect on Jehovah's generosity in providing his only-begotten Son as a ransom. (John 3:16; 1 John 4:9, 10) This compels us to live no longer for ourselves. (2 Cor. 5:14, 15) It also stimulates our desire to praise Jehovah publicly. (Ps. 102:19-21) Indeed, Jehovah's grateful servants eagerly look forward to the opportunity we will have at the Memorial observance on April 5 to 'proclaim the death of the Lord.' —1 Cor. 11:26.

1. Why is the Memorial observance important?
2. How can we demonstrate our appreciation for the Memorial through study and meditation?
3. How can we demonstrate our appreciation for the Memorial by increasing our share in the ministry?
4. What benefits can we receive from observing the Memorial?

WEEK STARTING MARCH 19

Song 11 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 18 ¶6-11 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 8-11 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 10:17–11:5 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: What Is the Significance of the Memorial?—*rs* p. 266 ¶1–p. 267 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: What Do the Memorial Emblems Represent?—*rs* p. 267 ¶2-3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 21
***5 min:* Announcements.**
***15 min:* What Do We Learn?** Discussion. Have Matthew 6:19-34 read. Consider how these verses can help us in our ministry.
***15 min:* "Witness in Business Territory With Confidence."** Questions and answers. Interview a publisher who has good success working business territory.
Song 108 and Prayer

Witness in Business Territory With Confidence

[1] Do you find the thought of witnessing at businesses to be intimidating? If so, do not despair, for even Paul, who was a bold and fearless minister, had to 'muster up boldness' in order to preach. (1 Thess. 2:2) Below are some common concerns along with practical suggestions for addressing them.

[2] **Will Interrupting the Workers Annoy Them?** In many businesses, workers serve the public and expect interruptions. They will often be polite, since they may view you as a potential customer. By dressing in a dignified manner and being warm and friendly, you will encourage respectful treatment.

[3] **Will I Have to Give My Presentation in Front of Many Customers?** If possible, choose a time when stores are not overly busy, such as when they first open. Wait until the manager or clerk is alone before approaching him. Make your presentation very brief.

[4] **What Should I Say?** Speak to the person in charge if there are several workers. You might say: "It's hard to find businesspeople at home, so we're visiting you at your workplace. I know you're working, so I'll be very brief." So that we will not be confused with salesmen, it is usually best not to mention the donation arrangement unless we are asked how our work is financed. Depending on the nature of the business, you may ask the manager for permission to speak briefly to the workers. Repeat your presentation to them. If a worker seems busy, shorten your presentation and leave him a tract. If it is not possible to talk with the workers, perhaps you will be allowed to leave literature in the break room or other common area.

[5] Jesus and Paul preached to people at their places of business with confidence, and so can you. (Matt. 4:18-21; 9:9; Acts 17:17) Ask Jehovah to help you to have a calm heart and to be bold. (Acts 4:29) Business territory has few not-at-homes, so why not give this productive form of witnessing a try?

1. Why should we not despair if we feel that business witnessing is intimidating?
2. Why should we not worry about annoying the workers?
3. How can we avoid irritating the customers?
4. What might we say when working businesses?
5. What reasons are there to share in business witnessing with confidence?

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WEEK STARTING MARCH 26

Song 92 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 18 ¶12-18 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 12-16 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 13:1-14 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Who Should Partake of the Lord's Evening Meal?—*rs* p. 267 ¶5–p. 268 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: How Often Should the Memorial Be Commemorated, and When?—*rs* p. 269 ¶1-2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 124
***5 min:* Announcements.** Inform the congregation how many territories have yet to be covered with the Memorial invitation.
10 min: Do Not Forget Hospitality. (Heb. 13:1, 2) Talk by an elder. Review local arrangements for the Memorial. Suggest ways that all can demonstrate hospitality to visitors and inactive publishers who will be in attendance. Have a brief two-part demonstration. First, show a publisher before the program who is welcoming someone who received an invitation during the campaign. Then show the publisher making arrangements after the program concludes to further the visitor's interest.
20 min: ***"The Wonders of Creation Reveal God's Glory."*** Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion. Invite audience to relate how viewing this video has benefited them. Discuss ways that this video can be used in the ministry.
Song 110 and Prayer

The Wonders of Creation Reveal God's Glory

Many enjoy looking at creation. But few realize that as they do so, they are catching a glimpse into the mind and heart of our Grand Creator. (Rom. 1:20) Long ago, David learned about Jehovah through His inspired Word. But he also "saw" and drew close to Him through creation. (Ps. 8:3, 4) The video entitled *The Wonders of Creation Reveal God's Glory* helps us, our children, and our Bible students to take a close look at some of Jehovah's creation, see the qualities and personality of our Grand Creator, and as a result draw closer to him. After viewing the video, see if you can answer the following questions.

(1) How does the size and order of the physical universe deepen your appreciation of Jehovah? (Isa. 40:26) **(2)** When we look closer at water, what can we learn about the One who designed it? (Rev. 14:7) **(3)** How does the earth's size and proximity to the sun demonstrate Jehovah's wisdom? **(4)** What purpose does the moon serve? (Ps. 89:37) **(5)** How has Jehovah designed humans to enjoy life? **(6)** What is DNA? (Ps. 139:16) **(7)** Of all Jehovah's earthly creations, how are humans different? (Gen. 1:26) **(8)** What do you look forward to in the new world?

Extra Features: (9) Where do colors come from? **(10)** How does water overcome gravity to reach the tops of trees? **(11)** What role does water play within our bodies? **(12)** Give examples of the harmony that exists between living things. **(13)** How do creatures know to form partnerships with others? **(14)** What is the "golden angle," and how is it displayed in creation?

"Observe Intently" Jehovah's Handiwork: Jesus encouraged us to "observe intently the birds of heaven" and to "take a lesson from the lilies of the field." (Matt. 6:26, 28) Doing so can deepen our faith, instill confidence in the Creator, and build appreciation for Jehovah's wisdom, saving power, and love. Rather than be unduly distracted by the works of this world, make the time and effort to observe the wonders of Jehovah's creation, and reflect on what it tells us about our God.—Ps. 19:1.

WEEK STARTING APRIL 2

Song 8 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 18 ¶19-24 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Jeremiah 17-21 (10 min.)

No. 1: Jeremiah 21:1-10 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: What Has Satan's Way of Governing Proved? (5 min.)

No. 3: What Can Help to Improve a Marriage?—*rs* p. 253 ¶2-5 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 87

10 min: Announcements. Use the sample presentation on this page to demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in April.

15 min: Local needs.

10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in April. Discussion. Take one to two minutes to point out a few of the articles that may have appeal in your territory. Next, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.

Song 99 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **April and May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* and endeavor to start a Bible study. When making return visits on those who attended the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associating with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book. **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest.

■ The Memorial will be held on Thursday, April 5, 2012. If your congregation normally has meetings on Thursday, these are to be switched to another day of the week if the Kingdom Hall is available. If this is not possible and your Service Meeting is affected, the parts that are particularly applicable to your congregation may be incorporated into another Service Meeting.

■ The two *Young People Ask* videos, *How Can I Make Real Friends?* and *What Will I Do With My Life?,* will be considered during upcoming Service Meetings. If needed, copies should be requested through the congregation as soon as possible.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in April

"Baptism is a common practice among many Christians. What do you think? Is baptism important? [Allow for response.] This article makes some interesting points." Hand the householder the April 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together the material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the scriptures. Offer the magazines and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM April 1

"There are many opinions about Jesus. Some think that he was the promised Messiah. Others feel that he was just a good man. Still others believe that he never existed. What's your opinion? [Allow for response.] According to the Bible, it's important to know the truth about him. [Read John 17:3.] This magazine shows the Bible's answers to some common questions about Jesus."

Awake!® April

"We are calling as a public service to families. Would you agree that families face numerous challenges today? [Allow for response.] Notice where many families have found practical advice. [Read Psalm 119:105.] This magazine discusses how stepfamilies have successfully dealt with their unique challenges by following Bible principles."

Field Service Highlights

When comparing October 2011 with the same month last year, there was an increase of 4.3 percent in regular pioneers in the Bahamas and an increase of 6.9 percent in Bible studies in Bermuda. The Turks and Caicos Islands reached new peaks of 302 total publishers and 45 regular pioneers. Additionally, the United States reached a new peak of 143,738 regular pioneers. This is an increase of 1,384 over the previous peak reported last month. This fine report reflects our love for Jehovah and fellowman.—Matt. 22:37-39.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

APRIL 2012

WEEK STARTING APRIL 9

Song 123 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 19 ¶1-5, boxes on pp. 149-150 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 22-24 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 23:15-23 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Why Life in the New World Will Never Be Boring (5 min.)
No. 3: Applying Scriptural Counsel Can Improve a Marriage—*rs* p. 254 ¶1-4 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 36
***5* min:** Announcements.
***15* min: Make Good Use of the *2012 Yearbook*.** Use "A Letter From the Governing Body" as the basis for an introductory talk. Then, invite audience to relate encouraging developments or experiences from "Highlights of the Past Year." Next, invite comments on outstanding aspects of the worldwide report. Conclude by encouraging all to complete their reading of the *Yearbook*.
***15* min: "Three Tips for Improving Your Teaching."** Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 2, have a demonstration showing a publisher considering the first paragraph on page 3 of the *Bible Teach* book with a householder. After the publisher reads the quote from Job 10:15, he then gives a one- to two-minute explanation of who Job is. Afterward, ask the audience why this was not good teaching, even though the details he gave about Job were accurate.
Song 10 and Prayer

Three Tips for Improving Your Teaching

[1] All Christian ministers are teachers. Whether we are making the initial call, returning to further the interest, or conducting a Bible study, we are imparting information. And the information we teach is not ordinary. We are shedding light on "the holy writings," which can make people "wise for salvation." (2 Tim. 3:15) What an awesome privilege! Here are three tips for improving our teaching.

1. Why should we seek to improve our teaching?

[2] **Simplicity:** When we know a subject well, it can be easy to forget how complicated the information may seem to someone who does not. So when conducting a Bible study, do not clutter your teaching with a lot of unnecessary details. Instead, highlight the main points. A lot of talking does not necessarily mean better teaching. (Prov. 10:19) It is generally best to read only the key scriptures. After reading a scripture, focus on the aspect under consideration. The Sermon on the Mount, recorded at Matthew chapters 5 to 7, contains very profound truths, and yet Jesus taught with simplicity and an economy of words.

[3] **Illustrations:** Illustrations stimulate thinking, stir emotions, and aid in remembering. Do not feel that you must be a storyteller to give good illustrations. Jesus often used short, uncomplicated ones. (Matt. 7:3-5; 18:2-4) Simple pictures drawn on a piece of paper can also be very useful. With a little forethought, you can come up with effective illustrations.

[4] **Questions:** Questions require your student to think. Therefore, be patient after you ask a question. If you quickly give the answer yourself, you will not really know what your student understands. If he answers wrongly, it may be better to lead him to the correct conclusion with additional questions instead of simply correcting him. (Matt. 17:24-27) Of course, none of us are perfect teachers. Therefore, the Bible encourages us to pay constant attention to our teaching. Our doing so will bring everlasting benefits to us and to those listening to us.—1 Tim. 4:16.

2. How can we teach with simplicity?
3. What is the value of illustrations, and what kind are often the best?
4. How can we use questions effectively?

WEEK STARTING APRIL 16

Song 85 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 19 ¶6-11 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Jeremiah 25-28 (10 min.)

No. 1: Jeremiah 27:1-11 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: What Can We Learn From the Bible About Mary?—*rs* p. 254 ¶5–p. 255 ¶2 (5 min.)

No. 3: What the Scriptures Say About Honoring the Elderly (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 90

5 min: Announcements.

10 min: Develop Ability as a Teacher —Part 3. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 59-61.

20 min: ***"Jehovah's Witnesses—Faith in Action, Part 1: Out of Darkness."*** Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion.

Song 116 and Prayer

Jehovah's Witnesses —Faith in Action, Part 1: Out of Darkness

In the Bible, light is associated with truth, whereas darkness is associated with falsehood. (Ps. 43:3; Isa. 5:20) Satan introduced darkness into the world when he deceived Eve, and eventually he plunged mankind into deep darkness. (Rev. 12:9) The video *Jehovah's Witnesses—Faith in Action, Part 1: Out of Darkness* chronicles how spiritual light began to emerge from darkness. (Isa. 60: 1, 2) After viewing the video, can you answer these questions?

(1) How did deep darkness develop after the death of the apostles? **(2)** Beginning in the 1100's, what developments helped people to discern that the church had gone off course? **(3)** Who were Henry Grew and George Storrs? **(4)** What events in the life of Charles Russell had a profound effect on him? **(5)** How did Brother Russell, his father, and a few acquaintances carry out their Bible study class, and what Scriptural conclusions did they come to? **(6)** How did this Bible study group come to merge with Nelson Barbour's group, but what caused Brother Russell to withdraw? **(7)** What occurred in July 1879 that began a new era of spiritual light? **(8)** Thereafter, what did the growing number of Bible Students do to spread the good news? **(9)** Years in advance, what did the Bible Students expect to occur in 1914? **(10)** What challenges did the Bible Students face after Brother Russell died? **(11)** What did the Bible Students do after Brother Rutherford and his associates were released from prison? **(12)** How has viewing this video deepened your appreciation for Jehovah's organization? **(13)** How has this video strengthened your determination to continue zealously preaching despite obstacles? **(14)** How could we use this video to help our relatives, Bible students, and others?

What a precious spiritual heritage those early Bible Students left for us! In a spiritually darkened world, they were courageous and zealous light bearers. May we imitate their example and "go on walking as children of light."—Eph. 5:8.

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WEEK STARTING APRIL 23

Song 45 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 19 ¶12-20, box on p. 152 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 29-31 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 31:15-26 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Does God Expect Christians to Keep a Weekly Sabbath? (5 min.)
No. 3: Was Mary Truly a Virgin When She Gave Birth to Jesus?—*rs* p. 255 ¶3-4 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 130
10 min: Announcements. Take one to two minutes to point out a few of the articles in the May magazines that may have appeal in your territory. Next, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.
25 min: "Our District Conventions—Powerful Testimony to the Truth." Questions and answers. Discuss applicable "2012 District Convention Reminders." When considering paragraph 9, invite the service overseer to explain local arrangements for distributing the invitations.
Song 119 and Prayer

Our District Conventions —Powerful Testimony to the Truth

[1] Ancient Israelites gathered three times a year for seasonal festivals. Although only the males were required to attend, often entire families traveled to Jerusalem to enjoy these happy conventions. (Deut. 16:15, 16) Such events gave opportunity to reflect on and discuss important spiritual truths. What are some of these truths? One is that Jehovah is a generous, loving Provider. (Deut. 15:4, 5) Another is that he can be relied on for guidance and protection. (Deut. 32:9, 10) Israelites could also reflect on the fact that as a people for Jehovah's name, they must properly reflect his righteousness. (Deut. 7:6, 11) Today our annual district conventions benefit us similarly.

[2] **The Program Shines Light on Truth:** At our district conventions, we enjoy talks, dramas, demonstrations, and interviews that shine light on vital Bible truths. (John 17:17) Already, much work has gone into the up-

1. The seasonal festivals gave Israelites opportunity to reflect on and discuss what important spiritual truths?
2. How will the district convention program shed light on the truth?

2012 DISTRICT CONVENTION REMINDERS

■ **Program Times:** The program will begin at 9:20 a.m. all three days. The doors will open at 8:00 a.m. When the introductory music is announced, all of us should go to our seats so that the program can begin in a dignified manner. The program will conclude at 4:55 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 3:40 p.m. on Sunday.

■ **Parking:** At all convention sites where we control the parking, the spaces will be available to attendees at no charge on a first-come, first-served basis. Only those with a state-approved license plate or placard for the disabled will be allowed to park in the area reserved for them. Parking is usually limited, so carpooling should be done to the extent possible.

■ **Seat Saving:** Seats may be saved only for those living in your home or traveling in your vehicle or for your current Bible students. —1 Cor. 13:5.

■ **Noon Meal:** Please bring a lunch rather than leave the convention site to obtain a meal during the noon break. A small cooler that can be placed under a seat may be used. Large family-size picnic coolers and glass containers are not permitted in the convention facility.

■ **Donations:** We can show our appreciation for the convention arrangements by making voluntary contributions to the worldwide work at the convention. Any checks should be made payable to "Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses." Beginning this year all conventions will accept debit/credit card donations in addition to cash and checks.

coming convention. Jehovah's organization is preparing a program that has been specifically designed to address the current needs of the worldwide field. (Matt. 24:45-47) Are you eager to see and hear what will be presented?

[3] Of course, we will get the most benefit if we are present and pay close attention all three days. If you have not already done so, talk to your employer about taking time off from work. Be sure to get sufficient rest each night so that you can be alert during the program. Many find that keeping their eyes focused on the speaker and taking brief notes helps them remain attentive. Do not allow your cell phone or pager to disturb you or others. Avoid talking, texting, eating, or drinking during the program.

Our good conduct while in the convention city adorns the truth

[4] In Sabbath years, when Israelite families congregated to hear the Law being read during the Festival of Booths, they had their "little ones" with them "in order that they may listen and in order that they may learn." (Deut. 31:12) How encouraging it is to see families sitting together during the convention and the young ones staying awake and paying close attention! Each evening, why not consult your notes and discuss together points from the program that you especially enjoyed? "Foolishness is tied up with the heart of a boy," so parents do well to supervise their children, including those in their teenage years, during the noon break and while at the hotel, rather than letting them be "on the loose."—Prov. 22:15; 29:15.

[5] **Our Good Conduct Adorns the Truth:** Our good conduct while in the convention city adorns the truth. (Titus 2:10) Hotel personnel take note when a group follows hotel rules and demonstrates patience and graciousness with the staff. (Col. 4:6) When branch office representatives were negotiating with a hotel last year, the sales director told them: "We love to have your people come to our hotel because of the kind of people they are. They are so well-mannered and kind, and they always treat our staff and facility with such respect."

3. What must we do to benefit from the program?

4. How can parents help their children benefit during the convention?

5. How will our good conduct while at the hotel adorn the truth?

■ **Accidents and Emergencies:** If a medical emergency arises at the convention site, please contact a nearby attendant, who will immediately notify First Aid so that our qualified first-aid personnel can assess the seriousness of the situation and render assistance. If it is necessary, our first-aid personnel will call 911. This will prevent emergency-response services from receiving many cell-phone calls.

■ **Medication:** If you require prescription medication, please be sure to bring an adequate supply with you, since none will be available at the convention. Diabetic syringes and needles must be disposed of properly as hazardous waste and not in trash receptacles at convention venues and hotels.

■ **Footwear:** Each year a number of injuries occur that are related to footwear. It is best to choose modest, well-fitting shoes that will allow you to walk safely on ramps, stairs, gratings, and so forth.

■ **Hearing Impaired:** The program will be broadcast in the auditorium on an FM radio frequency. To receive it, you will need to bring a small battery-operated FM receiver with earphones.

■ **Baby Strollers and Lawn Chairs:** Baby strollers and lawn chairs should not be brought to the convention site. However, child-safety seats are acceptable if they can be secured in a seat next to the parents.

■ **Fragrances:** Most conventions take place in enclosed areas with mechanical ventilation. Therefore, it would be loving on our part to limit the use of strong fragrances, colognes, and

[6] When we wear our convention badge, this not only serves to advertise the convention and enable other delegates to identify us but also gives a witness to onlookers. People in the convention city will observe that those wearing a convention badge are dressed neatly and modestly, not with the unkempt and provocative styles common in the world. (1 Tim. 2:9, 10) Therefore, we should give attention to our dress and grooming while in the convention city, including when we check in at the hotel. Arriving in shorts and a T-shirt would not reflect dignity. Even if the convention is at an open-air stadium, our clothing should be dignified. If we choose to change clothes after the program concludes and go to a restaurant, we should remember that we are still convention delegates and should not dress in an overly casual manner.

Three weeks before the start of our convention, we will participate in a campaign to invite others to attend

[7] At the seasonal festivals, the Israelites enjoyed upbuilding association with fellow worshippers from other parts of the nation and the world, and this promoted unity. (Acts 2:1, 5) During district conventions our unique Christian brotherhood is on full display. This pleasant aspect of our spiritual paradise often impresses observers. (Ps. 133:1) Rather than leaving the facility during lunch to purchase food, how much better it is to bring a light lunch with us and take advantage of the opportunities to meet and converse with brothers and sisters sitting nearby!

[8] Observers are often impressed by our well-organized and orderly conventions, especially when they learn that all the work is done by volunteers. Are you able to 'offer yourself willingly' to work at the convention? (Ps. 110:3) Entire families often volunteer to work as a way to train their children to give of themselves. If you are shy, working at the convention is a good way to meet other delegates. One sister remarked: "Except for my family and a handful of friends, I didn't know many there. But when I helped with the cleaning, I met a lot of brothers and sisters. It was great fun!" Widening out our circle of friends

6. How can we adorn the truth by the way we dress while in the convention city?

7. What is one way to enjoy our Christian unity during the convention?

8. What reasons are there to volunteer to work if our circumstances permit?

perfumes that may cause reactions in people with respiratory or related problems.—1 Cor. 10:24.

■ ***Please Follow Up* (S-43) Forms:** A *Please Follow Up* form should be used to provide information regarding any interest found through informal witnessing during the convention. Publishers should bring one or two forms to the convention. Completed forms may be submitted to the Book Room or given to your congregation secretary on your return.—See the May 2011 *Our Kingdom Ministry,* page 3.

■ **Restaurants:** Honor Jehovah's name by your fine conduct at restaurants. Leave a tip if this is customary.

■ **Hotels:**

(1) Please do not reserve more rooms than you will actually use, and do not have more people stay in your room than what is allowed.

(2) Do not cancel your reservation except for an emergency situation, and notify the hotel as soon as it occurs.—Matt. 5:37.

(3) Please note that if you use a debit or credit card when registering at a hotel, it is standard practice for them to place a "hold" on enough funds in your account to cover your total room cost plus any possible damages or incidentals during your stay. You will not be able to use any of those funds until your account is settled within a few days after you depart.

(4) Take a luggage cart only when you are ready to use it, and return it immediately so that others may use it.

by assisting at the convention will bring us much joy. (2 Cor. 6:12, 13) If you have never volunteered, ask the elders how you can qualify to assist.

[9] **Invite Others to Hear the Truth:** Three weeks before the start of our convention, we will, as in previous years, participate in a campaign to invite others to attend. Congregations will want to cover as much of their territory as possible with the invitation. (See the box "How Will We Offer the Invitation?") Any leftover invitations should be brought to the convention. These will be used by delegates to witness informally while in the convention city.

[10] Do people respond to this annual campaign? At one convention, an attendant helped a married couple find a seat. They told him that they received the invitation and "thought it looked interesting." They drove over 200 miles to attend! In another case, a sister going from house to house gave the invitation to a man who seemed curious about the convention. So she took time to discuss the invitation with him. A few days later while attending the convention, the sister saw the man and one of his friends at the convention, and they were carrying one of the new releases!

[11] The seasonal festivals were a loving provision from Jehovah to help the Israelites "serve him in faultlessness and in truth." (Josh. 24:14) Similarly, our attendance at our yearly district conventions helps us to "go on walking in the truth" and is a vital part of our worship. (3 John 3) May Jehovah bless the efforts of all lovers of truth to attend and benefit to the full!

9. How will we invite others to attend the convention?

10. Relate experiences proving that our annual invitation campaign produces results.

11. Why is attendance at our annual district conventions important?

How Will We Offer the Invitation?

In order to cover our territory, we may need to be brief. We might say something like this: "Hello. We are sharing in a global effort to distribute this invitation. Here is your copy. You will find more details on the invitation." Be enthusiastic. When sharing in the distribution on the weekends, you should also offer the magazines when appropriate.

(5) Tip hotel workers when they carry your luggage, and leave a tip for the housekeeper each day.

(6) Cook only in rooms where cooking is permitted.

(7) Do not abuse any complimentary breakfast, coffee, or ice provisions that are made available for guests to consume while they are at the hotel.

(8) Display the fruitage of the spirit in dealing with the hotel staff. They are caring for a large number of guests and appreciate our kindness, patience, and reasonableness.

(9) Parents should supervise their children at all times around the hotel, including the swimming pool, lobby area, exercise room, and so forth.

(10) The room rate shown on the *Recommended Lodging List* is the full price per day, excluding tax. If you are overcharged, refuse these charges and inform the Rooming Department at the convention as soon as possible.

(11) If a problem arises with your hotel room, inform the Rooming Department while at the convention so they can assist you.

■ **Volunteer Service:** Any who wish to volunteer should report to the Volunteer Service Department at the convention. Children under 16 years of age can work under the direction of a parent or guardian or other adult approved by a parent or guardian.

WEEK STARTING APRIL 30

Song 125 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 20 ¶1-7, box on p. 156 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 32-34 (10 min.)
Theocratic Ministry School Review (20 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 82
10 min: Announcements. Use the sample presentation on page 8 to demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in May.
10 min: How to Overcome Objections About Religion. Discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 330, paragraph 4, to page 333, paragraph 2. Have one or two suggestions briefly demonstrated.
10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Acts 4:1-13, 18-20 read. Consider how this account can help us in our ministry.
***5* min: "Two Coins of Little Value."** Talk.
Song 126 and Prayer

Two Coins of Little Value

One important way that we support Kingdom interests is by contributing financially to the worldwide preaching work. What if we are of limited means?

On one occasion Jesus saw a poor widow contribute to the temple treasury two coins of little monetary value. Love for Jehovah moved her to give "out of her want, . . . all of what she had, her whole living." (Mark 12:41-44) Jesus took note, indicating that her contribution had great value in God's eyes. Similarly, first-century Christians did not view the responsibility of providing financial support for the ministry to be the privilege of only wealthy Christians. The apostle Paul cited the example of the Macedonians who, despite "deep poverty . . . kept begging . . . with much entreaty for the privilege of kindly giving."—2 Cor. 8:1-4.

Therefore, if we can only contribute 'two coins of little value,' we should remember that many small contributions can add up to a large amount. Our giving from the heart will please our generous heavenly Father, for "God loves a cheerful giver."—2 Cor. 9:7.

Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning April 30, 2012. The date when each point is scheduled for discussion is included so that research can be done when preparing for the school each week.

1. Why is the Bible book of Jeremiah beneficial for us? [Mar. 5, *si* p. 129 par. 36]
2. How might Jehovah deliver us from persecution today? (Jer. 1:8) [Mar. 5, *w05* 12/15 p. 23 par. 18]
3. When and how did the anointed return to "the roadways of long ago"? (Jer. 6:16) [Mar. 12, *w05* 11/1 p. 24 par. 12]
4. Why can it be said that there is "balsam in Gilead" today? (Jer. 8:22) [Mar. 19, *w10* 6/1 p. 22 par. 3–p. 23 par. 4]
5. In what way does Jehovah "feel regret" after pronouncing judgment? (Jer. 18:7, 8) [Apr. 2, *jr* p. 151 box]
6. How did Jehovah fool Jeremiah, and what lesson can we draw from this? (Jer. 20:7) [Apr. 2, *jr* p. 36 par. 8]
7. In what sense were Israel's enemies sanctified? (Jer. 22:6-9) [Apr. 9, *it-2* p. 1166 par. 8]
8. Why could Jehovah rightly say to his ancient people: "I have drawn you with loving-kindness"? (Jer. 31:3) [Apr. 23, *jr* pp. 142-145 pars. 8-11]
9. How is God's law written in hearts? (Jer. 31:33) [Apr. 23, *w07* 3/15 p. 11 par. 2]
10. What was the purpose of making two deeds of the same transaction? (Jer. 32:10-15) [Apr. 30, *w07* 3/15 p. 11 par. 3]

WEEK STARTING MAY 7

Song 120 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 20 ¶8-15, box on p. 161 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 35-38 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 36:14-26 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Was Mary Always a Virgin?—*rs* p. 255 ¶5–p. 256 ¶2 (5 min.)
No. 3: Can the Actions of Humans Really Affect God's Feelings?—Judg. 2:11-18 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 91
5 min: Announcements.
20 min: Have You Tried It? Discussion. By means of a talk, review information from these recent articles in *Our Kingdom Ministry:* "Do Not Hold Back" (*km* 10/11), "Direct Your Blows Wisely," and "Preach to 'People of All Sorts'" (*km* 1/12). Invite audience to comment on how they have tried to apply the suggestions in these articles and how they have benefited.
10 min: Local needs.
Song 14 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **April and May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* and endeavor to start a Bible study. When making return visits on those who attended the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associating with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book. **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **July:** Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *A Satisfying Life—How to Attain It, The Bible—What Is Its Message?,* or *Was Life Created?* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

■ The meeting schedule for the week preceding your district convention may be adjusted to review counsel and reminders about attending the convention. A month or two following your convention, a local needs part may be used to review convention points that the publishers have found to be helpful in the ministry.

■ Whenever your personal travel plans include attending a district convention in another land, you will find helpful information on the jw.org Web site by selecting the Conventions link under the Lookup tab.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in May

"Do you see religion as a force for love and peace or for hatred and violence? [Allow for response.] Let me show you something interesting on the subject." Hand the householder the May 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together the material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM May 1

"Many believe it's good for religion to be involved in politics, whereas others feel that religion and politics shouldn't mix. What do you think? [Allow for response.] Notice how Jesus reacted when people wanted him to become involved in the politics of his day. [Read John 6:15.] This magazine explains why Jesus responded the way he did and discusses the best way that Christians can help their community."

Awake!® May

"Almost everyone we speak to has been dealt with unfairly at one time or another. Do you think there is a solution for injustice? [Allow for response.] Notice this prophecy about a ruler who will end injustice. [Read Psalm 72:11-14.] This magazine discusses the Bible's promises for a more just tomorrow."

Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak of 176 regular pioneers in the Bahamas during November 2011, an increase of 6 over the previous peak in September 2011. Also, when compared to the same month last year, the following increases in hours were reported: 5.8 percent in the Bahamas, 15.9 percent in Bermuda, 2.6 percent in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and 2.8 percent in the United States. These consistent increases reflect our heart's desire to remain 'steadfast and unmovable' in the Lord's work.—1 Cor. 15:58.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

MAY 2012

WEEK STARTING MAY 14

Song 33 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 20 ¶16-20 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Jeremiah 39-43 (10 min.)

No. 1: Jeremiah 40:1-10 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Can Humans Enter Into God's Rest? —Heb. 4:10, 11 (5 min.)

No. 3: Was Mary the Mother of God?—*rs* p. 256 ¶3–p. 257 ¶2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 131

***5* min: Announcements.**

15 min: By This All Will Know That You Are My Disciples. (John 13:35) Discussion based on the *2012 Yearbook,* page 217, paragraph 3, to page 221, paragraph 1, and page 221, paragraph 3. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.

15 min: "Exercise Caution While in the Ministry." Questions and answers by the service overseer. Explain how the congregation can apply the material in the local territory.

Song 74 and Prayer

Exercise Caution While in the Ministry

1 "As sheep amidst wolves," God's servants are preaching "among a crooked and twisted generation." (Matt. 10:16; Phil. 2:15) Alarming reports of civil unrest, mob violence, and cruel kidnappings are commonplace, evidence of wicked men advancing "from bad to worse." (2 Tim. 3:13) Applying what Scriptural principles will help us to 'prove ourselves cautious' in the ministry?—Matt. 10:16.

2 **Act Shrewdly:** Proverbs 22:3 emphasizes the wisdom of 'concealing ourselves' from calamity. Stay alert! The conditions in a normally safe neighborhood can unexpectedly change. You may see an increase of police activity or crowds forming in the street. Sometimes a kind householder will provide a warning. Rather than lingering out of curiosity, it is shrewd to leave promptly and continue elsewhere. —Prov. 17:14; John 8:59; 1 Thess. 4:11.

3 **Work Together:** "Two are better than one," says Ecclesiastes 4:9. While you may have been accustomed to working safely alone in the ministry, is it now safe to do so? In some areas, it is. But in others, it now is ill-advised for a sister or a young person to work from door to door alone, especially after sunset. Experience has proved that an attentive partner is invaluable. (Eccl. 4:10, 12) Remain watchful over other members in your group. Make it your habit to let others know that you are leaving the territory.

4 As ones 'keeping watch over our souls,' the elders are responsible to provide practical guidance according to the local circumstances. (Heb. 13:17) Jehovah's blessing is assured as we demonstrate Christian modesty and cooperate fully with them. (Mic. 6:8; 1 Cor. 10:12) May all of God's servants contribute to giving an effective witness in our territory, yet always with due caution.

1. Why is a cautious approach necessary in the ministry?

2. What circumstances may make it advisable to leave the territory and preach in another area?

3. How does the principle at Ecclesiastes 4:9 apply to our ministry?

4. How can we work toward the protection of all in the congregation?

WEEK STARTING MAY 21

Song 121 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 21 ¶1-7, box on p. 166 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 44-48 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 46:18-28 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Was Mary Immaculately Conceived?—*rs* p. 257 ¶3–p. 258 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: How Can We Sow "With a View to the Spirit"?—Gal. 6:8 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 95
10 min: Announcements. Mention the literature offer for June, and have one presentation demonstrated.
15 min: Youths, Could You Auxiliary Pioneer During Vacation? Talk. Briefly review paragraph 1 on page 113 in the *Organized* book, outlining the requirements to auxiliary pioneer. Then interview one or two publishers who took advantage of a school vacation to auxiliary pioneer. Encourage youths to consider auxiliary pioneering during their next vacation from school.
10 min: ***"God's Word for Us Through Jeremiah."*** Questions and answers.
Song 41 and Prayer

God's Word for Us Through Jeremiah

1 How excited we were when a new book by that name was released at the 2010 "Remain Close to Jehovah!" District Convention! This publication highlights lessons for our daily life found in the books of Jeremiah and Lamentations. (Rom. 15:4) Designed for use in the Congregation Bible Study, it will be considered beginning the week of November 5, 2012.

1. What publication was released at the 2010 district convention, and how will we use it?

2 **Beneficial Today:** Jeremiah, the writer of this inspired Bible book, prophesied during a turbulent period in Judah. At first, he did not feel qualified for his assignment. (Jer. 1:6) He was also persecuted by acquaintances and perhaps relatives from his hometown, Anathoth. (Jer. 11:21, 22) Understandably, Jeremiah became discouraged at times. (Jer. 20:14) As we fulfill our commission to "make disciples of people of all the nations," we often experience challenges and feelings similar to those of Jeremiah. (Matt. 28:19) A consideration of his writings will help us to carry out our ministry with confidence and zeal.

3 **Features:** Key scriptures that should be read during the discussion are identified in italics. The end of each week's study is marked by a meaningful question or two set in bold that highlights the main points of the lesson. These should be asked of the audience in review. Throughout the book are beautiful illustrations that the congregation will no doubt want to comment on.

4 To benefit to the full, prepare your lesson in advance. Look for points that you can use in your life and ministry. Have a full share in commenting. With Jehovah's blessing, Jeremiah fulfilled his assignment with joy and contentment. (Jer. 15:16) May our consideration of this new publication help us to carry out our ministry in the same way.

2. Why can we benefit from a consideration of the Bible books of Jeremiah and Lamentations?
3. How will we use certain features of the *Jeremiah* book?
4. How can we benefit to the full from a consideration of the *Jeremiah* book?

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WEEK STARTING MAY 28

Song 133 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 21 ¶8-13, box on p. 169 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Jeremiah 49-50 (10 min.)

No. 1: Jeremiah 49:28-39 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: How Is the Name of Jehovah "a Strong Tower"?—Prov. 18:10 (5 min.)

No. 3: Did Mary Ascend to Heaven With Her Body of Flesh?—*rs* p. 258 ¶2-3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 68

10 min: Announcements. Use the sample presentation on page 4 to demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in June.

25 min: ***"Jehovah's Witnesses—Faith in Action, Part 2: Let the Light Shine."*** Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion.

Song 93 and Prayer

Jehovah's Witnesses —Faith in Action, Part 2: Let the Light Shine

After Brother Rutherford and his associates were released from prison in 1919, a huge work lay ahead of the Bible Students. As depicted in the video *Jehovah's Witnesses—Faith in Action, Part 2: Let the Light Shine,* the Bible Students would have many opposers, their understanding of the Scriptures would continue to grow, and their faith would be refined. (Prov. 4:18; Mal. 3:1-3; John 15:20) After viewing the video, can you answer these questions?

(1) What methods did the Bible Students use to spread the good news? **(2)** What happened at the landmark conventions in 1931 and 1935? **(3)** What was significant about the November 1, 1939, issue of *The Watchtower?* **(4)** Describe what occurred at Madison Square Garden during Brother Rutherford's talk "Government and Peace." **(5)** What was noteworthy about Brother Knorr's talk "Peace —Can It Last?" **(6)** In 1942, what plans did Jehovah's Witnesses make to expand their preaching work? **(7)** Explain some of the legal battles that were fought in the United States, Canada, and Greece. **(8)** What impact did Gilead have on the growth of the preaching work? **(9)** What important work began in 1946, and why? **(10)** What steps did Jehovah's Witnesses take to make sure their conduct was in harmony with the standard set forth in the Bible? **(11)** Explain some of the adjustments that were made in the 1970's to align the organization more closely with the pattern in the Bible. **(12)** How has viewing this video deepened your appreciation that Jehovah is in full control and that this is his organization? **(13)** How has this video strengthened your determination to continue zealously preaching despite obstacles? **(14)** How could we use this video to help our relatives, Bible students, and others?

Each day that passes adds a new chapter to the history of Jehovah's Witnesses. What will the record say about *our* efforts in the ministry? As our brothers have done in the past, may we zealously continue to "let the light shine"! —2 Cor. 4:6.

WEEK STARTING JUNE 4

Song 103 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 21 ¶14-22 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Jeremiah 51-52 (10 min.)
No. 1: Jeremiah 52:17-27 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Is It Proper to Address Prayers to Mary as Intercessor?—*rs* p. 258 ¶4–p. 259 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: How Can Humans Gain Access to "the Secret Place" of Jehovah?—Ps. 91:1, 2, 9 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 57
***5* min: Announcements.**
10 min: How to Reach the Heart—Part 2. Discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, page 261, paragraph 2, to the end of page 262.
10 min: Local needs.
10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in June. Discussion. Take one to two minutes to point out a few of the articles that may have appeal in your territory. Next, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.
Song 61 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* and endeavor to start a Bible study. When making return visits on those who attended the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associating with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book. **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **July and August:** Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *A Satisfying Life—How to Attain It, The Bible—What Is Its Message?,* or *Was Life Created?* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in June

Read Isaiah 42:8. Then say: "According to this, God has a name. Do you think it's important for us to use God's name? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says." Hand the householder the June 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together material under the first subheading on page 16. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM June 1

"I would like to ask your opinion on an important topic. [Open to page 3, and point to the list.] Which of these best describes your view of the Bible? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says about itself. [Read Romans 15:4.] This magazine discusses five reasons why the Bible is a unique book and points out how it can benefit us."

Awake!® June

"Each year millions around the world get sick from eating unsafe food. In your opinion, how safe is the food in our community? [Allow for response.] This magazine explains four ways we can protect our family from foodborne illness. It also discusses the Bible's promise that soon everyone will enjoy an abundance of healthful food." Read Psalm 104:14, 15.

Field Service Highlights

We are pleased to report two new all-time peaks during the month of December. The Turks and Caicos Islands reported a peak of 47 regular pioneers, and the United States reported a peak of 143,740 regular pioneers. Additionally, when compared with the same month last year, the Bahamas had a 21.4 percent increase in auxiliary pioneers and Bermuda had a 71.4 percent increase in auxiliary pioneers. Certainly, Jehovah's people are busy inviting others to "take life's water free."—Rev. 22:17.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

JUNE 2012

WEEK STARTING JUNE 11

Song 123 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 22 ¶1-6 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Lamentations 1-2 (10 min.)
No. 1: Lamentations 2:11-19 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: In What Ways Is Man "Ruining the Earth"?—Rev. 11:18 (5 min.)
No. 3: Was Mary Specially Honored in the First-Century Christian Congregation?—*rs* p. 259 ¶3–p. 260 ¶3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 134
5 min: Announcements.
10 min: What Did We Accomplish? Discussion by the secretary. Outline what was accomplished during the Memorial season, and commend the congregation for its activity. Invite audience to relate experiences enjoyed while distributing Memorial invitations, returning to visit new ones who attended, and auxiliary pioneering.
20 min: "Twelve Reasons for Preaching." Discussion.
Song 47 and Prayer

Twelve Reasons for Preaching

Why do we preach and teach the good news? Is it primarily to help honesthearted people onto the road to life? (Matt. 7:14) That is the first reason listed below, but it is not our primary one. Which of the following 12 reasons for engaging in the ministry do you think is the most important?

1. It helps save lives.—John 17:3.
2. It serves to warn the wicked.—Ezek. 3:18, 19.
3. It contributes to the fulfillment of Bible prophecy.—Matt. 24:14.
4. It is an expression of God's righteousness. No charge can be brought against Jehovah that he destroyed the wicked without giving them opportunity to repent.—Acts 17:30, 31; 1 Tim. 2:3, 4.
5. It allows us to discharge our debt to give spiritual help to people purchased with the blood of Jesus.—Rom. 1:14, 15.
6. It enables us to avoid bloodguilt.—Acts 20:26, 27.
7. It is a requirement for our own salvation.—Ezek. 3:19; Rom. 10:9, 10.
8. It demonstrates love for neighbor.—Matt. 22:39.
9. It shows obedience to Jehovah and his Son.—Matt. 28:19, 20.
10. It is part of our worship.—Heb. 13:15.
11. It expresses our love for God.—1 John 5:3.
12. It contributes toward the sanctification of Jehovah's name.—Isa. 43:10-12; Matt. 6:9.

Of course, these are not the only reasons we engage in the ministry. For example, preaching strengthens our faith and also gives us the privilege to be God's fellow workers. (1 Cor. 3:9) However, the most important reason for sharing in the ministry is number 12. Regardless of the response we receive, the ministry contributes toward the sanctification of God's name and gives Jehovah a reply to the one who is taunting him. (Prov. 27:11) Indeed, we have compelling reasons to 'continue without letup teaching and declaring the good news.'—Acts 5:42.

WEEK STARTING JUNE 18

Song 61 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 22 ¶ 7-14, boxes on pp. 174, 177 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Lamentations 3-5 (10 min.)

No. 1: Lamentations 5:1-22 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Responding to Those Who Ask, 'Do You Believe in the Virgin Mary?'—*rs* p. 260 ¶4–p. 261 ¶2 (5 min.)

No. 3: Why We Believe That the Bible Is Inspired of God—2 Tim. 3:16 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 4

10 min: Announcements. Question Box. Talk.

10 min: Do You Remember? Discussion based on the April 15, 2012, *Watchtower,* page 32.

15 min: The Value of Bible Literature. Discussion based on the *2012 Yearbook,* page 92, paragraph 1; page 112, paragraph 3; and page 113. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.

Song 24 and Prayer

QUESTION BOX

■ **What should be kept in mind if we want some or all of our assets to go to Jehovah's organization upon our death?**

When humans die, they no longer have control over their material possessions. (Eccl. 9:5, 6) So in advance many execute a will or trust that explains their wishes for distributing their assets. (2 Ki. 20:1) This legal document generally also indicates whom the person wants to serve as the trustee or executor. If the document is not prepared, in many lands the authorities will determine how to distribute the deceased person's assets. Therefore, if we have specific wishes regarding our assets, such as that some or all go to Jehovah's organization, it is important that we execute a legal document to stipulate this and that we carefully choose the trustee or executor.

The trustee or executor has a heavy responsibility. Depending on the size of the estate, his assembling and then distributing assets can involve many details and can be time-consuming. In addition, the secular authorities often have guidelines that must be followed. Not everyone who is a member of the congregation would automatically be a good trustee or executor. The person we choose should be someone whom we know to be capable, trustworthy, and willing to follow our wishes.—See the article "The Wisdom and Benefits of Estate Planning," in the December 8, 1998, issue of *Awake!*

If You Are Asked to Be a Trustee or Executor: If you are asked whether you would be willing to administer someone's estate upon their death, first make sure to count the cost and determine prayerfully if you are able to fulfill this responsibility. (Luke 14:28-32) After the person's death, you will need to inform all who are named as beneficiaries. Then once you have authority to do so, it will be your duty to distribute the assets according to the law and exactly as directed in the will or trust. A trustee or executor should be aware that whether the estate is large or small, liberties should not be taken with the assets. Any bequests to a legal entity used by Jehovah's Witnesses are dedicated funds that belong to Jehovah's organization. —Luke 16:10; 21:1-4.

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WEEK STARTING JUNE 25

Song 63 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 22 ¶15-21 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Ezekiel 1-5 (10 min.)
Theocratic Ministry School Review (20 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 59

10 min: Announcements. Use the sample presentation on page 4 to demonstrate how we can use the magazines to start a Bible study on the first Saturday in July.

15 min: Use Your Time Wisely When in the Ministry. (Eph. 5:15, 16) Discussion based on the following questions. (1) How may we make wise use of time when (a) conducting the meeting for field service? (b) the meeting for field service has concluded? (c) someone in our car group has an extended conversation with an interested person? (d) making return visits that are scattered over a wide area? (2) How is time saved when (a) we feed our family, if possible, before meeting for service? (b) everyone arrives on time for the meeting for field service? (c) we pay close attention to the conductor as he arranges the groups and do not unnecessarily rearrange them after the meeting for field service concludes? (d) everyone knows where to begin working before leaving for the territory?

10 min: The Literature Offer for July. Discussion. Consider features of the literature being offered and have one or two presentations demonstrated.

Song 29 and Prayer

Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning June 25, 2012. The date when each point is scheduled for discussion is included so that research can be done when preparing for the school each week.

1. Jeremiah's survival during hard economic times provides us with what assurance? (Jer. 37:21) [May 7, *w97* 9/15 p. 3 par. 4–p. 4 par. 1]
2. In what ways do Christians with an earthly hope imitate the fine example of Ebed-melech? (Jer. 38:8-13) [May 7, *su* p. 179 par. 9]
3. Since Jehovah used Nebuchadrezzar's bodyguards to protect Jeremiah and Baruch, is it proper for Christians to seek the protection of armed police officers today? (Jer. 39:11-14) [May 14, *w83* 7/15 p. 31]
4. What "great things" could Baruch have been seeking for himself, and on what does his response to Jehovah's counsel help us to focus? (Jer. 45:5) [May 21, *w06* 8/15 p. 18 par. 1; p. 19 par. 6]
5. In describing the justified retribution to come upon Edom, why does Jehovah contrast himself with "grape gatherers" and "thieves"? (Jer. 49: 9, 10) [May 28, *w77* p. 442 par. 7–p. 443 par. 1]
6. What sobering lessons can be learned from what befell King Zedekiah after he "proceeded to rebel against the king of Babylon"? (Jer. 52:3, 7-11) [June 4, *w88* 9/15 p. 17 par. 8; *w81* 4/1 p. 13 pars. 3-4; p. 14 par. 6]
7. What are Jehovah's "footstool" and his "booth"? (Lam. 2:1, 6) [June 11, *w07* 6/1 p. 9 par. 2]
8. What did Jeremiah mean when he said that Jehovah would "remember and bow low over" him, and why is this of great significance to us? (Lam. 3:20) [June 18, *w07* 6/1 p. 11 par. 3]
9. Why is it beneficial for a person to learn to bear a yoke of suffering during youth? (Lam. 3:27) [June 18, *w07* 6/1 p. 11 par. 5; *w87* 2/15 p. 24 par. 1]
10. How can Ezekiel's example help us to speak with boldness despite the apathy of others? (Ezek. 3:8, 9) [June 25, *w08* 7/15 pp. 8-9 pars. 6-7]

WEEK STARTING JULY 2

Song 116 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 23 ¶1-8, box on p. 180 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Ezekiel 6-10 (10 min.)
No. 1: Ezekiel 7:14-27 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: How Was Jonathan a Fine Example of Humility?—1 Sam. 23:16-18 (5 min.)
No. 3: Is Transubstantiation Factual?—*rs* p. 262 ¶1–p. 263 ¶2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 64
5 min: Announcements.
10 min: How to Reason With Householders —Part 1. Discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, page 251 to page 253, paragraph 2. Briefly demonstrate one or two points from the material.
10 min: Local needs.
10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in July. Discussion. Choose two or three articles and take 30 to 60 seconds to relate why they will have appeal in your territory. Then using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.
Song 31 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **July and August:** Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *A Satisfying Life—How to Attain It, The Bible—What Is Its Message?,* or *Was Life Created?* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study. **September:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

■ The video presentation *Our Whole Association of Brothers* will be considered at an upcoming Service Meeting. If needed, copies should be requested through the congregation.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in July

"In recent years, there has been an increasing interest in angels. Do you think angels are real? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says." Hand the householder the July 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM July 1

Read Psalm 65:2. Then say: "Many agree with this, that God is the 'Hearer of prayer,' and pray every day. But others wonder, 'If God exists, why does the world have so many problems?' What do you think? Is there a God who hears our prayers? [Allow for response.] This magazine discusses the Bible's answer to this question: 'Why does the Hearer of prayer allow suffering?' "

Awake!® July

"If you could change one thing about our world, what would it be? [Allow for response.] The Bible shows why humans are limited in what they can accomplish. [Read Jeremiah 10: 23.] This magazine explains what God purposes to change."

Field Service Highlights

When comparing January 2012 to the same month last year, the number of publishers increased by 4.8 percent in the Bahamas and by 14.6 percent in the Turks and Caicos Islands. During the first five months of the service year, the number of Bible studies increased over the previous year by 10.3 percent in Bermuda and by 2.8 percent in the United States. How essential that we return to water seeds of Kingdom truth! —1 Cor. 3:6-9.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

JULY 2012

WEEK STARTING JULY 9

Song 78 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 23 ¶9-15, boxes on pp. 184, 186 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Ezekiel 11-14 (10 min.)

No. 1: Ezekiel 11:14-25 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: What Does John 6:53-57 Mean?—*rs* p. 263 ¶3-4 (5 min.)

No. 3: What Is Meekness, and How Can It Help Us to Be Positive?—Zeph. 2:3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 96

***5* min: Announcements.**

15 min: Make Effective Return Visits. Discussion based on the following questions: (1) Why is it good for us to have an objective each time we call back? (2) How long should we stay on the first few visits? (3) How might we introduce ourselves when we return? (4) What could we say if the person says he is not interested? (5) When calling on someone who accepted a tract, a brochure, or the magazines, when and how can we introduce the *Bible Teach* book? (6) How can we cultivate a person's interest if we are having difficulty finding him home again? (7) How may we train less experienced publishers while we are making return visits?

15 min: "What Is Your 'Cause for Exultation'?" Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 4, encourage all to report their field service each month. Review pertinent points from the *Organized* book, pages 88-90.

Song 9 and Prayer

What Is Your "Cause for Exultation"?

[1] When the end of each month arrives and all are asked to submit their field service report, what is *your* "cause for exultation"? (Gal. 6:4) Whether we are special pioneers reporting 130 hours in the ministry or publishers approved to report in 15-minute increments, all of us should rejoice in our whole-souled service to Jehovah.—Ps. 100:2.

[2] As the Sovereign Lord of the universe, Jehovah deserves the very best we have to give. (Mal. 1:6) Out of love for him, we have dedicated our lives to do his will. Thus, at the end of the day or at the end of the month, if we are confident that we have given the "firstfruits" of our time, talents, and strength in Jehovah's service, then we personally have cause for exultation. (Prov. 3:9) If, however, our conscience bears witness against us, then we should consider what we can do to improve.—Rom. 2:15.

[3] **"Not in Comparison With the Other Person":** It is unwise to compare ourselves with others or with ourselves when we had greater vitality. Circumstances change. Abilities vary. Comparisons often lead to competition or feelings of worthlessness. (Gal. 5:26; 6:4) Jesus did not make comparisons. Rather, he gave commendation in accord with what a person was able to do.—Mark 14:6-9.

[4] In Jesus' parable of the talents, each worker received talents "according to his own ability." (Matt. 25:15) When the master returned and requested a report on their activity, those who had worked diligently in accord with their abilities and circumstances received commendation and entered into the joy of their master. (Matt. 25:21, 23) As we similarly stay busy in the work of Kingdom preaching, we can be confident of divine approval and have cause for exultation!

1. What cause for exultation do we have at the end of each month?

2. Why should we exert ourselves in Jehovah's service?

3. Why is it unwise to compare ourselves with others?

4. What valuable lessons can we learn from Jesus' parable of the talents?

WEEK STARTING JULY 16

Song 101 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 23 ¶16-19, box on p. 188 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Ezekiel 15-17 (10 min.)
No. 1: Ezekiel 16:14-27 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: What Is the Truth That Jesus Referred to at John 18:37? (5 min.)
No. 3: Did Jesus Institute the Celebration of Mass?—*rs* p. 264 ¶1–p. 265 ¶5 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 119
5 min: Announcements.
10 min: Use the Theocratic Ministry School to Progress as a Minister. Talk by the Theocratic Ministry School overseer based on the *Ministry School* book, page 6, paragraph 1, to the end of page 8. Interview one or two publishers regarding how the school has helped them in the ministry.
20 min: "Help People to Listen to God." Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 5, have a demonstration showing how one of the brochures could be offered. After considering paragraph 6, have a three-minute demonstration showing the publisher conducting a Bible study in the *Listen to God* brochure and discussing the first illustration on page 4.
Song 120 and Prayer

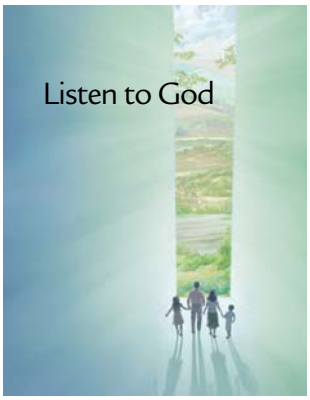
Help People to Listen to God

1 At the "Let God's Kingdom Come!" District Convention, two new brochures were released, *Listen to God and Live Forever* and a simplified version, *Listen to God*. Because they have little text, they can be translated quickly and easily. In fact, *Listen to God and Live Forever* was approved to be translated into 431 languages on its release.

2 Who in particular will benefit from these brochures? Consider the following scenarios that arise frequently around the world:

- A publisher having a discussion with a householder, either on the initial call or on a return visit, discerns that the householder is illiterate or reads poorly.
- A publisher preaches to people who speak a language that we have translated few or no publications into. Or most in the territory are unable to read the language they are most comfortable speaking.
- A publisher uses sign language to preach to the deaf in his territory.
- A parent desires to teach the truth to his young child who does not yet know how to read.

3 **How They Were Designed:** *Listen to God* has very little text—generally just a simple sentence and a Scripture citation at the bottom of each page that highlights the main points. Why? Imagine that someone offered you a brochure that is written in a language you cannot read, perhaps with characters that are foreign to you. Would it be of interest to you, even if it contained beautiful illustrations? Likely not. Similarly, people who cannot read are easily intimidated by publications that have text. Therefore, prominent on each page are carefully prepared illustrations with arrows to guide the discussion from one illustration to the next.



4 *Listen to God and Live Forever* has the same illustrations as *Listen to God*. It has

1. What brochures were released at the "Let God's Kingdom Come!" District Convention, and what makes them such useful tools?
2. Who will benefit from these brochures?
3. How was *Listen to God* designed?
4. How was *Listen to God and Live Forever* designed?

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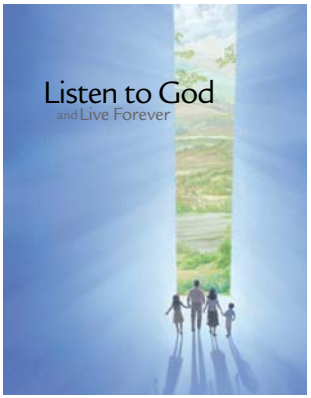
been designed to study with those who have limited reading ability or are learning to read. This brochure can also be used as a teacher's copy when studying with someone out of the *Listen to God* brochure.



At the top left corner of each two-page lesson is a question that is answered on those pages. Included with the illustrations are comments and cited scriptures. Toward the bottom corner of many of the pages is a shaded box with some additional points and Scripture citations that could be discussed, depending on the ability of the student.

[5] **How to Use Them:** You may offer either brochure in the house-to-house ministry whenever you feel it is beneficial to do so, even when brochures are not the offer for the month. (See the box "How They May Be Offered.") You could introduce it on a return visit by simply telling the interested person that you have something to show him and handing him a brochure.

[6] Since *Listen to God* does not have printed questions, the discussions will not be question-and-answer sessions such as you might normally have when studying out of the *Bible Teach* book. In every culture people enjoy hearing stories. So use the illustrations to tell the inspired stories that make up the Bible record. Explain what is being illustrated. Be enthusiastic. Invite the observations of the student. Read the scriptures at the bottom of the page, and reason with him on what they say. Ask questions to involve him in the discussion and to make sure he understands. If he is using *Listen to God and Live Forever,* read together the corresponding text and scriptures when discussing each illustration.

[7] **Help the Student to Progress:** Hopefully, your discussion will awaken in your student a desire to learn how to read so that he can take in knowledge of Jehovah on his own. (Matt. 5:3; John 17:3) Therefore, if the discussions are from *Listen to God,* in time perhaps you can offer to teach the student how to read, and you can transfer the study to *Listen to God and Live Forever.* Regardless of the brochure you use, the student will not be ready for baptism once the brochure has been completed. You should transfer the study to the *Bible Teach* book or another appropriate publication that will give him a more rounded-out understanding of the Bible.

[8] People must listen to the Sovereign of the universe if they are to live forever. (Isa. 55:3) And Jehovah's will is that "all sorts of men," including those who are unable to read, learn how to listen to him. (1 Tim. 2:3, 4) How thankful we are for these new tools that we can use to teach people how to listen to God!

5. When and how may we offer these brochures?
6. How will we conduct a Bible study using these brochures?

7. How can we help our Bible student to progress?
8. Why are you thankful for these new tools for the ministry?

How They May Be Offered

Show the householder pages 2-3, and say: "Would you like to live in a world that looks like this? [Allow for response.] The Scriptures promise [or, this holy book promises] that God will soon make the world a beautiful, peaceful place where no one is poor or sick. Notice what we must do to live there. [Read Isaiah 55:3, which is cited at the top of page 3.] This tells us to 'come to' God and 'listen' to him. But how do we listen to God?" Turn to pages 4-5, and discuss the answer with him. If he does not have time, leave the brochure with him and make arrangements to return and discuss the answer.

WEEK STARTING JULY 23

Song 43 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 24 ¶1-9, box on p. 193 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Ezekiel 18-20 (10 min.)
No. 1: Ezekiel 19:1-14 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: A Christian's Attitude Toward Secular Authority—*rs* p. 270 ¶1-3 (5 min.)
No. 3: What Is the Meaning of Matthew 21:43? (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 10
***5 min:* Announcements.**
10 min: Use Visual Aids Effectively. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 247 to page 249, paragraph 2. Briefly demonstrate one or two points from the material.
20 min: Jehovah Is the Hearer of Prayer. (Ps. 66:19) Discussion based on the *2012 Yearbook,* page 59, paragraphs 1-4; page 183, paragraph 2; page 186, paragraph 4; and page 198, paragraph 1, to page 199, paragraph 1. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.
Song 56 and Prayer

WEEK STARTING JULY 30

Song 131 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 24 ¶10-15 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Ezekiel 21-23 (10 min.)
No. 1: Ezekiel 23:35-45 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: How Expansive Is God's Love? —John 3:16; Rom. 8:38, 39 (5 min.)
No. 3: Scriptures That Bear on a Christian's Attitude Toward Carnal Warfare—*rs* p. 271 ¶1-4 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 3
10 min: Announcements. Use the sample presentation on page 8 to demonstrate how we can use the magazines to start a Bible study on the first Saturday in August.
25 min: "Before Preaching, You May Need to Search." Questions and answers by the service overseer. Highlight how the material can be applied locally. If the congregation sponsors a foreign-language group or must search for those who speak the language of the congregation, when considering paragraph 5 demonstrate what could be said in the search work.
Song 92 and Prayer

Before Preaching, You May Need to Search

[1] At Pentecost 33 C.E., after receiving holy spirit, Jesus' disciples "started to speak with different tongues" to those present from far-flung parts of the earth. (Acts 2:4) As a result, about 3,000 were baptized. Interestingly, it seems that most of the visitors also spoke a common language, likely Hebrew or Greek. Yet Jehovah chose to have the Kingdom message preached to them in their native tongue. No doubt one reason for this is that people often respond to the good news more readily when they hear it in their native language. Therefore, today, congregation territory assignments in multilingual areas are made *according to language.* (*Organized,* p. 107, pars. 2-3) Foreign-language groups do not receive a territory assignment, but they preach to those who speak the language in the territory of the sponsoring congregation and other congregations in the vicinity.

[2] If you live where everyone speaks the same language, you can simply preach from one house to the next. However, your situation may be different if you live in a mul-

1. Why are congregation territory assignments in multilingual areas made according to language?

2. (a) What is the search work, and where may it be necessary? (b) How can congregations help one another work multilingual territory? (c) What should we do if we find someone of another language who shows interest?

tilingual metropolitan area. Other-language congregations may be preaching in the same neighborhoods. While the congregations may provide you with information on individuals they find who speak your language, the primary responsibility to find people to whom you can preach rests with your congregation or group. (See the box "Help One Another.") Therefore, you may need to engage in the search work, whereby you make inquiries to locate those who speak a specific language. How can the search work be carried out?

[3] **Organizing the Search Work:** The amount of time that is devoted to the search work in multilingual areas depends on local circumstances. For example, how many people in the community speak the language? How many publishers are there? How many addresses does the congregation or group already have? The congregation is not required to search every neighborhood equally but may choose to focus on the more populated areas within its territory boundary and on those areas that are a reasonable distance away. However, having a well-organized arrangement to search is important so that as many as possible can be given the opportunity to call on the name of Jehovah.—Rom. 10:13, 14.

[4] In order to prevent unnecessary duplication of effort in places where searching is necessary, the body of elders, particularly the service overseer, should organize and oversee the search work. (1 Cor. 9:26) In foreign-language groups, a qualified brother, preferably an elder or ministerial servant chosen by the body of elders of the sponsoring congregation, can take the lead. Many congregations and groups have a systematic arrangement to do preliminary research, perhaps using a directory or the Internet to gather names common in the language. Then the search work is done by means of phone calls or visits to determine which addresses should be included in the territory. If it is practical to do so, the body of elders of a congregation that sponsors a group may arrange for the entire congregation to participate in the search work occasionally.—See the box "How to Find Those Who Speak Your Language."

[5] We should have a clear objective each

3. What determines where a congregation or group searches and how much time they devote to this activity?

4. (a) How should the search work be organized? (b) What are some ways to find people who speak your language?

5. (a) What are some suggestions for publishers doing the search work? (b) What could we say to people when searching?

Help One Another

If the congregation or group would like help to find those of their language to whom they can preach, the service overseer can contact the elders of other-language congregations nearby. It may be best to contact only congregations that are a reasonable distance away or that have a significant population of those who speak the language. The contacted congregations can then inform their publishers that if they find anyone who speaks that language, they should write down the address and give it to the service overseer to pass on to the congregation or group requesting help. The service overseers of the congregations involved can work out a mutually acceptable system of covering multilingual territory and directing interested ones to the appropriate congregation or group.

If publishers find someone of another language *who shows definite interest* (or someone who is deaf), they should *promptly* fill out a *Please Follow Up* (S-43) form and give it to the congregation secretary. This will enable the person to receive spiritual help *quickly.* —See *km* 5/11 p. 3.

time we personally share in the search work. Since this activity is part of the ministry, we should generally dress as ministers. Many find that practicing their presentations and speaking the language while searching helps them maintain enthusiasm and sharpens their language skills. We may count the time we spend searching but not the time spent preparing territory maps and lists. When we find someone who speaks the language, we should endeavor to share the good news and thereafter promptly inform the service overseer or someone designated by him so that territory records can be updated. This is true regardless of whether the person showed interest. Although the search work is important, we should be balanced and share in all features of the ministry.—See the box "What to Say in the Search Work."

[6] **Searching for Those Who Are Deaf:** Searching for deaf people has unique challenges and requires significant effort and persistence. A deaf person cannot be identified by the spelling of his name, by his physical characteristics, or by his dress. In addition, family members and friends can be protective and may hesitate to provide information to publishers who inquire. The following suggestions for searching for the deaf may also be helpful when searching for those who use a spoken language.

[7] Sign-language congregations and groups have had success making inquiries in residential areas. Perhaps the householder has observed a neighbor, workmate, or schoolmate using sign language. He may have noticed a street sign alerting neighbors that deaf children are present. Maybe he has a deaf relative. Keep in mind that the purpose of your visit may be viewed with some suspicion. However, you can do much to put the householder at ease by your genuine friendliness and your brief, honest, and dignified explanation. Some have had good results by displaying the Bible or other DVDs as they inquire whether the householder knows someone who is deaf. Then they simply mention that they wish to share the Bible's hope with such ones. If the householder hesitates to provide information, he may be willing to accept your address card or a congregation meeting invitation to give to his deaf relative or friend.

6. Searching for deaf people has what unique challenges?

7. (a) What inquiries could be made in residential areas to find the deaf? (b) How might we dispel a householder's suspicion?

How to Find Those Who Speak Your Language

- Inquire of others—Bible students, family members, workmates, and so forth.
- Use a telephone directory to find names that are common in the language. A reverse directory that sorts names according to address may be available on the Internet or through the telephone company.
- Discreetly inquire at places that offer services to the public, such as local libraries, government offices, and colleges.
- Check the local newspaper for announcements regarding public activities arranged by the foreign-language community.
- Visit local shops and businesses that cater to the foreign-language community.
- With permission from those in charge, set up a literature table at a business, university student center, or transportation center frequented by people who speak the language.
- If allowed by law in your country, purchase a commercial directory or a computer program that searches public areas of the Internet.

[8] One or two days a year, a sign-language congregation might invite a nearby congregation of a different language to help them search one of the metropolitan areas within their large territory. A meeting for service conducted by the sign-language congregation could include instructions for this activity and a demonstration. Each car group can be assigned at least one publisher from the sign-language congregation and be given a map showing a specific area to search.

[9] Searching can also be done where deaf people are known to gather for association and recreation or to obtain helpful services offered in the community. Publishers should wear attire that is appropriate for the setting. It may be best to converse with one or two people present and to be discreet rather than giving a presentation to the entire group. If the conversation is productive, perhaps contact information can be exchanged.

[10] Another option is to prepare maps that show local businesses and then to visit them at an appropriate time. One map might include a number of gas stations. Another might have dry cleaners, laundries, restaurants, hotels, or another type of business. If each map has the same type of business, publishers can use the same approach and gain experience and skill. For example, since hotels usually accommodate deaf customers, we might briefly explain our work to the desk clerk and offer a prepared packet containing a DVD and a congregation meeting invitation for the hotel to give to deaf guests. At some businesses we can simply inquire if any workers or regular patrons use sign language. If there is a school for the deaf in the territory, we could offer some of our DVD publications for the library.

8. How could a nearby congregation assist a sign-language congregation?
9. How can the search work be done where deaf people gather for association and recreation or to obtain helpful services?
10. How can publishers search at local businesses?

[11] **An Important Work:** Finding householders who speak your language can be tedious. In addition, the makeup of some neighborhoods can change rapidly as people move in and out, making it challenging to keep territory records up-to-date. Nonetheless, in an increasing number of areas, the search work is an important aspect of the ministry. Jehovah, who has given us the assignment to preach, is not partial. (Acts 10:34) His "will is that all sorts of men should be saved and come to an accurate knowledge of truth." (1 Tim. 2:3, 4) Therefore, may we cooperate with Jehovah and one another to find people of all languages who have "a fine and good heart."—Luke 8:15.

11. Why is the search work an important part of the ministry?

What to Say in the Search Work

A friendly, sincere, and open approach will dispel suspicion. It is often helpful first to show literature in the language.

After giving a greeting, you might say: "We're looking for those who speak ___ so that we can share the Bible's hope with them. Do you know anyone we might talk to?"

When searching for the deaf, you could say: "Hello. May I show you something? [Using a portable video player, play a verse from the *New World Translation—On DVD.*] This is a portion of the Bible in American Sign Language. In addition to the Bible, we have a number of videos available at no charge that are designed to meet the spiritual needs of deaf people. Do you know of anyone who is deaf or hard of hearing and who uses sign language?" If the householder cannot remember anyone, it is often good to give examples of places where he may have seen a deaf person, such as at work, at school, or in the neighborhood.

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 6

Song 60 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 24 ¶16-21 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Ezekiel 24-27 (10 min.)
No. 1: Ezekiel 24:15-27 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Under What Circumstances Did God Allow the Israelites to Engage in Warfare?—*rs* p. 271 ¶5–p. 273 ¶1 (5 min.)
No. 3: Does Ezekiel 18:20 Contradict Exodus 20:5? (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 88
***5 min:* Announcements.**
10 min: Are You Prepared for the New School Year? Discussion. Invite audience to outline some of the challenges Christian youths will face at school. Explain how parents can use the *Index, Young People Ask* books, and other theocratic tools during family worship to prepare their children to resist temptations and explain their faith. (1 Pet. 3:15) Choose one or two topics, and relate some of the helpful information found in our publications. Invite audience to comment on how they were able to give a witness while at school.
10 min: Local needs.
10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in August. Discussion. Take 30 to 60 seconds to relate why the magazines will have appeal in your territory. Then, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.
Song 97 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **July and August:** Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *A Satisfying Life—How to Attain It, The Bible—What Is Its Message?,* or *Was Life Created?* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study. **September and October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

■ *Sing to Jehovah—Vocal Renditions,* Disc 5 is being released for download from the jw.org Web site on August 1. It will be posted first in English, with various other languages being posted sometime thereafter. Audio CDs may be requested through your congregation. Since the cost to download the files from our Web site is considerably less than that of producing and shipping physical discs, those who are able to download the files are encouraged to do so. Discs 1-4 have already been released.

■ Since September has five full weekends, it would be an excellent month to auxiliary pioneer.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in August

"Today people often picture Jesus as he was two thousand years ago, either as a baby in a manger or as a man hanging from a torture stake. However, what do you think Jesus is doing now? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says." Hand the householder the August 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® August 1

"Many people believe in miracles. Others are skeptical. Do you think miracles really happen? [Allow for response.] This promise of a future miracle has given many people hope. [Read one of the scriptures shown on pages 9-10.] This magazine answers three common objections about miracles."

Awake!® August

"Nowadays, many people are afraid to go out alone, especially after dark. Do you think anything can be done to make this world less violent? [Allow for response.] This magazine considers some things we can all do to become more peaceable with others. It also discusses how this encouraging prophecy will be fulfilled." Read Psalm 72:7.

Field Service Highlights

We rejoice to report two new all-time peaks during the month of February. Bermuda reported a peak of 520 total publishers, and the Turks and Caicos Islands reported a peak of 304 total publishers. In addition, when compared to the same month last year, the Bahamas had an increase of 8.1 percent in return visits and the United States had an increase of 5.4 percent in return visits. Clearly, with the guidance of Jehovah's spirit the good news continues to spread.—Acts 1:8.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

AUGUST 2011

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 8

Song 44 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 7 ¶14-18, boxes on pp. 57-58 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Psalms 92-101 (10 min.)
No. 1: Psalm 94:1-23 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: God's Kingdom Will Provide Food for All and Do Away With Sickness—*rs* p. 229 ¶3-5 (5 min.)
No. 3: Guard Against the Deceptive Power of Riches—Matt. 13:22 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 94
5 min: Announcements.
10 min: Demonstrate Interest in the Householder. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 186-187. Briefly demonstrate one or two points from the material.
10 min: Experiences Starting Bible Studies. Discussion by the service overseer. Commend the congregation for their support of the arrangement to start Bible studies on the first Saturday of the month. Invite audience to relate experiences they have enjoyed. One or two outstanding experiences may be reenacted.
10 min: "Let God's Name Be Sanctified." Questions and answers. Announce the dates of the circuit assembly if they are known.
Song 112 and Prayer

'Let God's Name Be Sanctified'

[1] How privileged we are to bear the name of the Universal Sovereign, Jehovah! It was God himself who gave us his name to bear, and especially since the year 1931, as Jehovah's Witnesses, we have been identified with Jehovah's distinctive name. (Isa. 43:10) God's only-begotten Son, Jesus, held God's name in the highest esteem, giving it first place in his model prayer. (Matt. 6:9) Jesus' words provide the basis for the theme of our circuit assembly program for the 2012 service year. It is "Let God's Name Be Sanctified."

[2] **What We Will Hear:** On Saturday the talk "Make God's Name Known as Full-Time Servants" will discuss why the full-time service is a rewarding way of life. We will also hear the symposium "Beware of Bringing Reproach on Jehovah's Name," which will help us to avoid becoming entrapped by four potential snares. The questions, What will help us to preach with zeal when people seem to show little interest? and, What will help us to carry out a meaningful ministry? will be answered in the talk "Why God's Name Must Be Sanctified." On Sunday we will enjoy a four-part symposium on how we can sanctify God's name by our thoughts, speech, decisions, and conduct. New ones will especially appreciate the public address, "Jehovah Will Sanctify His Great Name at Armageddon."

[3] Very soon Jehovah will act to sanctify his name. (Ezek. 36:23) In the meantime, we have the awesome privilege of upholding all that Jehovah's holy name represents. We are confident that this circuit assembly program will help each of us to fulfill our serious responsibility as bearers of God's name.

1. What is the theme of the circuit assembly program for the 2012 service year, and what is its basis?

2. What information do we have to look forward to?

3. What privilege do we have, and how will the program help us?

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 15

Song 39 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 8 ¶1-7, boxes on pp. 61-62 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Psalms 102-105 (10 min.)

No. 1: Psalm 105:1-24 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why We Should Not Look Back Longingly at What We Have Forsaken to Serve Jehovah—Luke 9:62 (5 min.)

No. 3: God's Kingdom Will Provide Homes, Employment, and Security for All—*rs* p. 229 ¶6–p. 230 ¶2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 85

5 min: Announcements.

10 min: Help Interested Ones to Progress. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 187, paragraph 6, to page 188, paragraph 3.

20 min: *"Jehovah's Witnesses—Organized to Share the Good News."* Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion.

Song 47 and Prayer

Jehovah's Witnesses —Organized to Share the Good News

For over 100 years, Jehovah's Witnesses have been organized to share the good news. In what has become the greatest preaching campaign the world has ever known, we speak this message in hundreds of languages and in more than 230 lands. (Matt. 24:14) Why is this work necessary? How is it being accomplished on a global scale? The video *Jehovah's Witnesses—Organized to Share the Good News* answers those questions by providing a close-up look at the many facets of our international activities. After watching the video, give consideration to the following questions.

How has this video enhanced your appreciation for **(1)** the effort Jehovah's organization is making to share the good news? (2 Tim. 4:2) **(2)** the Bethel families around the world? **(3)** the educational training provided for missionaries and overseers? (2 Tim. 2:2) **(4)** the importance of starting each day considering a Bible text and preparing each week for congregation meetings? (Acts 17:11) **(5)** the benefits of attending our Christian gatherings? (Heb. 10:24, 25) **(6)** the blessings you will receive when Paradise is restored on earth? (Isa. 11:9) **(7)** the privilege you have to share in the ongoing harvest work?—John 4:35.

This video has proved to be an excellent tool for acquainting interested people with the worldwide work being done by Jehovah's Witnesses. **(8)** When would it be good to show the video to our Bible students, relatives, and others? **(9)** What positive reaction have you seen when showing it?

As we reflect on what Jehovah is accomplishing, we are moved to echo these sentiments of the psalmist: "Many things you yourself have done, O Jehovah my God, even your wonderful works and your thoughts toward us; there is none to be compared to you." (Ps. 40:5) May we make good use of this video to help others develop appreciation for Jehovah and his organization!

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WEEK STARTING AUGUST 22

Song 54 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 8 ¶8-16 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Psalms 106-109 (10 min.)
No. 1: Psalm 109:1-20 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: God's Kingdom Will Cause Righteousness and Justice to Prevail—*rs* p. 230 ¶3-5 (5 min.)
No. 3: Follow the Examples of Jehovah and Jesus in Displaying Good Manners (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 132
10 min: Announcements. **"Let God's Will Take Place."** Questions and answers. Announce the date of the special assembly day if it is known.
25 min: "Can You 'Step Over Into Macedonia'?" Questions and answers. If available, interview a publisher who moved to a foreign land to further the good news.
Song 95 and Prayer

'Let God's Will Take Place'

[1] We were created because of Jehovah's will. (Rev. 4:11) Thus, it would be impossible to fulfill the purpose of our existence without learning and doing the will of God. This is not as easy as it may seem, forasmuch as we have to fight an inward tendency to do "the things willed by the flesh and the thoughts" or to do "the will of the nations." (Eph. 2:3; 1 Pet. 4:3; 2 Pet. 2:10) Without God's help, we would even risk being "caught alive by [the Devil] for the will of that one." (2 Tim. 2:26) Our special assembly day program for the 2012 service year will help each of us to work in harmony with the third primary entreaty in the model prayer, namely, "let your will take place."—Matt. 6:9, 10.

[2] **Questions That Will Be Answered:** As you listen to the program, look for the answers to these questions: What is as important as *hearing* God's Word? How can we go on perceiving what God's will is for us? Why do we need to be willing to reach out to all sorts of people? How can we find a rich, satisfying life? Young ones, what do you need to prove to Jehovah? What rewards come from doing God's will? Why is it urgent that we build up and encourage others?

[3] Be sure to be in attendance and to pay careful attention to the program. A Bethel representative or a traveling overseer will likely be present as a visiting speaker. Before and after the program, feel free to speak with him and his wife, if he is married. When you return home, do not become "a forgetful hearer," but review the program as a family and discuss how you can work in harmony with God's will more fully.—Jas. 1:25.

[4] Very soon those who are pursuing their own desires and who refuse to submit to the will of Jehovah will be destroyed. (1 John 2:17) We are therefore thankful that Jehovah has prepared this timely information to help us make the doing of God's will our priority!

1. What is the theme of the special assembly day program for the 2012 service year, and why is it appropriate that we consider this subject?

2. What questions will be answered during the program?

3. How can we benefit fully from this spiritual provision?

4. Why is it important that we make the doing of God's will our priority?

Can You "Step Over Into Macedonia"?

[1] About the year 49 C.E., the apostle Paul left Syrian Antioch for his second missionary trip. His intention was to visit Ephesus and other cities in Asia Minor. However, he received a spirit-directed invitation to "step over into Macedonia" instead. He and his companions gladly accepted, and they were privileged to establish the first congregation in that region. (Acts 16:9, 10; 17:1, 2, 4) Today, some parts of the worldwide field have a real need for more harvest workers. (Matt. 9:37, 38) Are you in a position to help?

[2] Perhaps you have Paul's missionary spirit but have not seriously considered moving to a foreign country. It may be, for example, that Gilead training is not a possibility for you because of your age or because you are a single sister or have minor children. Maybe you have not considered moving to a foreign land because you lack confidence that you could learn another language. Or you may be an immigrant living in your present country for economic reasons and thus hesitate to relocate. After prayerful consideration, however, you may find that such circumstances need not prevent you from moving to a foreign land where there is a need.

[3] **Is Missionary Training a Requirement?** What enabled Paul and his companions to be successful? They relied on Jehovah and his holy spirit. (2 Cor. 3:1-5) Therefore, even if your circumstances do not allow you to receive special training, you can still preach successfully in a foreign land. Remember, too, that you are receiving ongoing training through the Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting. And if you have the goal of attending Gilead or a similar school, your moving to another country to taste missionary service will give you valuable experience that you can use later if you are accepted for additional training.

[4] **Older Ones:** Spiritually mature older ones who are in reasonably good health can be a tremendous asset in countries that have a need. Have you retired from your secular work? Some who receive even a modest pension are able to manage quite well in a developing land where their expenses, including the cost of quality medical care, are much lower than in their home country.

[5] A retired brother from an English-speaking land, who is an elder and pioneer, moved to a popular tourist area in Southeast Asia to help an English-speaking group of nine publishers. The group preached to the 30,000 foreigners who lived in the area. Within two years 50 were attending the meetings. The brother wrote: "Moving here has brought me the most wonderful blessings I have ever enjoyed. Time does not allow me to relate even a fraction of them!"

[6] **Single Sisters:** Jehovah has used sisters in a mighty way to spread the good news in countries where the need is greater. (Ps. 68:11) One young single sister had the goal of expanding her ministry in a foreign land, but her parents were understandably concerned for her safety. So she chose a country that was politically and economically stable, wrote the branch office, and received helpful, specific information. During the six years she lived in that country, she enjoyed many blessings. She states: "At home I would have had few opportunities for Bible studies. But serving where there was a greater need enabled me to conduct

1. What caused Paul and his companions to go to Macedonia?
2. Why have some not considered moving to a foreign country?
3. Why is missionary training not a requirement to preach successfully in a foreign land?
4. Why should older ones not discount the idea of their preaching in a foreign country?
5. Relate an experience of a retired brother who moved to a foreign land.
6. Relate an experience of a single sister who moved to a country where the need was greater.

many studies and really develop my teaching ability."

[7] **Families:** If you have children, does this necessarily prevent you from moving to a foreign land to further the good news? One family with two children, aged eight and ten, decided to try it. The mother writes of their experience: "We are grateful that we could raise our children here, because they associated with special pioneers and missionaries. Our lives have been enriched because of serving where the need is greater."

[8] **Language Concerns:** Does the thought of learning a foreign language prevent you from moving to another land? Your language is likely spoken in other countries that have a need for more Kingdom preachers. One English-speaking couple moved to a Spanish-speaking country that has a sizable population of English-speaking immigrants. After receiving information from the branch office concerning several English congregations that had a need, they chose one and visited it twice. They returned home, cut their monthly expenses, and saved money for a year. When they were ready to move, the brothers in that area helped them locate affordable housing.

[9] **Emigrants:** Did you emigrate from your homeland, perhaps before learning the truth? There may be a great need for harvest workers in your native country. Could you consider moving back in order to assist? It will likely be easier for you to find work and accommodations than for someone who is from another country. You probably already speak the local language. In addition, people may be more willing to listen to the Kingdom message delivered by you than by someone they view as an outsider.

[10] One man moved from Albania to Italy as a refugee, secured a good job, and was sending money to his family in Albania. After coming into the truth, he began teaching Albanian to a group of Italian special pioneers who were moving there to serve where the need was greater. The brother writes: "They were heading off to the territory I had left. They didn't know the language and were thrilled to go. My language and culture were Albanian. What was I doing in Italy?" The brother decided to return to Albania to help spread the good news. He says: "Do I regret having given up work and money in Italy? Not for a minute! I found *real* work in Albania. As far as I'm concerned, the work that really matters and brings lasting joy is serving Jehovah with everything you have!"

[11] **How to Do It:** Before going to Macedonia, Paul and his companions intended to travel westward, but "they were forbidden by the holy spirit," so they turned northward. (Acts 16:6) When they were close to Bithynia, Jesus blocked them. (Acts 16:7) Jehovah, by means of Jesus, continues to oversee the preaching work. (Matt. 28:20) Therefore, if you are considering moving to a foreign land, prayerfully seek Jehovah's direction.—Luke 14:28-30; Jas. 1:5; see the box

7. Relate an experience of a family that moved to a foreign country.
8. Is it possible to serve in a foreign country without learning another language? Explain.
9, 10. What might those who emigrated from their homeland consider, and why?
11, 12. Those considering moving to a foreign land should do what?

How to Know if a Country You Are Considering Has a Need

- Consult the current *Yearbook*. Pay particular attention to the publisher-to-population ratio.
- Use the *Index* to research articles and experiences from the country.
- Talk to publishers who have visited or lived in the country.
- If you are considering a country that would allow you to preach in your native tongue, consult secular sources, such as the Internet, to see how many people there speak your language.

"How to Know if a Country You Are Considering Has a Need."

[12] Ask for objective comments from your elders and other mature Christians. (Prov. 11:14; 15:22) Read material we have published about serving in a foreign land, and also do research on any countries that you are considering. Can you visit the country that you are interested in moving to, perhaps for more than just a few days? If you are serious about moving to another country, you may write to the branch office in that country for more information, using the address in the current *Yearbook*. However, rather than sending your letter directly to the branch office, give it to your local elders, who will add their comments before they send it on.—See *Organized to Do Jehovah's Will*, pages 111-112.

[13] The branch office will send you helpful information about the country to help you make decisions, but it is not in a position to provide sponsorship letters or to supply residency, visa, or other legal forms or to locate accommodations for you. These are personal matters that will require your careful study *before* you move. In addition, you will be responsible for contacting embassies or consulates to obtain information about visa requirements and work permits. Those who move should be in a position to care for their individual needs and legal requirements.—Gal. 6:5.

[14] **Countries Where the Work Is Restricted:** In some countries the local brothers and sisters must be very discreet in their worship. (Matt. 10:16) Publishers who visit or move there could inadvertently draw undue attention to our activity and imperil the safety of the local brothers. If you are considering moving to such a land, please write to your local branch office through your body of elders before proceeding.

13. How will the branch office assist you, but what are you responsible for?
14. What cautions are in order when visiting or moving to a country where the work is restricted?

[15] **If You Cannot Move:** If you are not in a position to move to another country, do not be discouraged. Perhaps another "large door that leads to activity" is open to you. (1 Cor. 16:8, 9) Your circuit overseer may know of needs within driving distance of your home. Perhaps you could help in a nearby foreign-language congregation or group. Or you may be able to expand your ministry in your present congregation. Regardless of your circumstances, the important thing is that you are whole-souled in your worship. —Col. 3:23.

[16] Do you know a spiritually mature Christian who has the goal of serving in a foreign land? Then give him or her support and encouragement! When Paul left Syrian Antioch, it was the third largest city in the Roman Empire (after Rome and Alexandria). With such a large territory, the Antioch congregation likely had a need for Paul's assistance and would sorely miss him if he left. Yet, the Bible does not indicate that the brothers there discouraged Paul from leaving. It appears that instead of taking a narrow view, they remembered that "the field is the world."—Matt. 13:38.

[17] Paul and his companions were richly blessed for responding to the invitation to step over into Macedonia. While they were in the Macedonian city of Philippi, they found Lydia, and "Jehovah opened her heart wide to pay attention to the things being spoken by Paul." (Acts 16:14) Imagine the joy of Paul and his missionary companions when Lydia and her entire household got baptized! In many lands, there are honesthearted ones like Lydia who have not yet been contacted with the Kingdom message. If you "step over into Macedonia," you may experience the joy of finding and helping them.

15. How may those who do not have the circumstances to move away expand their ministry locally?
16. How should we react to those who wish to move to a foreign land?
17. What reasons are there to consider 'stepping over into Macedonia'?

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 29

Song 33 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 8 ¶17-24, box on p. 67 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Psalms 110-118 (10 min.)
Theocratic Ministry School Review (20 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 128

10 min: Announcements. Using the sample presentation on page 8, demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in September, and encourage all to have a share. By means of a talk, consider "Offer an Older Magazine or Any Brochure That Addresses the Person's Interest."

15 min: Zealous, Though Advanced in Years. Discussion based on the *2011 Yearbook*, page 61, paragraphs 1-2; page 67, paragraph 1; and page 135, paragraph 2, to page 136, paragraph 1. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.

10 min: Prepare to Offer the Magazines in September. Discussion. Take one or two minutes to review some of the contents of the magazines. Then choose two or three articles, and invite audience to suggest questions and scriptures that could be used in a presentation. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.

Song 122 and Prayer

"Offer an Older Magazine or Any Brochure That Addresses the Person's Interest"

During the months that we offer the *Bible Teach* book and a study on the initial call, we are encouraged to "offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest" whenever the householder already has the book and does not accept the offer of a study. Why?

Brochures and older magazines consider a variety of timely subjects. Something in one of those publications may touch the heart of the householder. Therefore, when packing your witnessing case, include several different brochures and older issues. If you do not have older magazines, perhaps you can obtain some from the magazine counter. Then, if the householder already has the *Bible Teach* book and does not agree to a Bible study, you can show him some of the magazines or brochures that you have and invite him to take what interests him. Thereafter, make arrangements to return to cultivate his interest. Perhaps a Bible study will eventually result.

Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning August 29, 2011.

1. How is God's loving-kindness "better than life"? (Ps. 63:3) [*w01* 10/15 p. 15 par. 17]
2. What does Psalm 70 indicate about David? [*w08* 9/15 p. 4 par. 4]
3. What is Psalm 75:5 warning against? [*w06* 7/15 p. 11 par. 2]
4. When particularly can we expect Jehovah to listen to our prayers? (Ps. 79:9) [*w06* 7/15 p. 12 par. 5]
5. What are the "hidden things" spoken of at Psalm 90:7, 8? [*w01* 11/15 pp. 12-13 pars. 14-16]
6. As indicated at Psalm 92:12-15, what important responsibility is conferred on older ones in the congregation? [*w04* 5/15 pp. 13-14 pars. 14-18]
7. In recording the words spoken at Psalm 102:25-27, was the psalmist contradicting God's everlasting purpose for the earth? (Gen. 1:28) [*w08* 4/1 p. 12 par. 1]
8. What lesson concerning failure to exercise discernment is brought to our attention at Psalm 106:7? [*w95* 9/1 p. 19 par. 4–p. 20 par. 2]
9. According to Psalm 110:1, 4, what oath does Jehovah make toward the promised Seed, or Messiah, and how will this work out for the blessing of all mankind? [*cl* p. 194 par. 13]
10. What effect did the psalmist's meditation on the benefits of his having served God have on him? (Ps. 116:12, 14) [*w09* 7/15 p. 29 pars. 4-5]

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 5

Song 75 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 9 ¶1-7, box on pp. 68, 70 (25 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Psalm 119 (10 min.)

No. 1: Psalm 119:49-72 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why the Scriptures Encourage the Fear of Jehovah—Deut. 5:29 (5 min.)

No. 3: God's Kingdom Will Resurrect the Dead—*rs* p. 230 ¶6–p. 231 ¶3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 111

5 min: Announcements.

10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Acts 5:17-42 read. Consider how this account can help us in our ministry.

10 min: Local needs.

10 min: Prepare for the Ministry as a Family. Interviews and demonstration. Interview a married couple and a family with children regarding how they use their Family Worship evening to prepare for the ministry. Then have one of the family heads briefly demonstrate with his family how they do so.

Song 88 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **August:** Any 32-page brochures that are in stock except *How Can Blood Save Your Life?, Jehovah's Witnesses and Education, Jehovah's Witnesses—Who Are They? What Do They Believe?,* and *The Origin of Life—Five Questions Worth Asking.* **September:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. If householders already have the book and do not accept the offer of a Bible study, offer an older magazine or any brochure that addresses the person's interest. **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* and endeavor to start a Bible study. **November:** *The Bible —What Is Its Message?*

■ The two video programs *Jehovah's Witnesses —Faith in Action, Part 1: Out of Darkness* and *The Wonders of Creation Reveal God's Glory* will be considered during upcoming Service Meetings. If needed, copies should be requested through the congregation as soon as possible.

■ Effective September 1, 2011, the Bahamas will come under the oversight of the United States branch.

■ Since October has five full weekends, it would be an excellent month to auxiliary pioneer.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in September

"People of different nationalities and faiths pray every day. Do you think God listens to and answers *all* prayers?" Allow for response. Then hand him a copy of the September 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together the material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the cited scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® September 1

Show the cover of the magazine, and say: "How would you answer this question? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says. [Read 1 John 5:19.] According to this, "the wicked one," or the Devil, rules the world. But that raises some questions. Where did the Devil come from? Is he even a real person? How long will God allow him to rule? This magazine shows what the Bible says."

Awake!® September

Many people today are stressed out because of money problems. Why do you think it's so hard to make ends meet? [Allow for response.] The Bible contains wise sayings that have helped many to manage their finances. [Read one of the scriptures found on pages 8-9.] This magazine gives practical suggestions for those struggling with debt."

Field Service Highlights

We are pleased to report a new peak of 725,539 Bible studies in the United States for March 2011. This is an increase of 8,157 over the previous peak in October 2010. Also, Bermuda and the Turks and Caicos Islands had fine increases in return visits and Bible studies during March. How happy we are to see so many streaming to Jehovah's pure worship!—Isa. 2:2-4.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 2012

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 10

Song 23 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 26 ¶9-15, box on p. 208 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Ezekiel 42-45 (10 min.)

No. 1: Ezekiel 43:13-27 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why Is the Name Jehovah Used in the *New World Translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures?*—*rs* p. 278 ¶1-3 (5 min.)

No. 3: What Must We Do to Receive Holy Spirit? (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 60

10 min: Personal Study Makes Strong Ministers. Discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 27-32.

10 min: Any Weapon Formed Against You Will Have No Success. (Isa. 54:17) Discussion based on the *2012 Yearbook,* page 125, paragraph 1, to page 126, paragraph 3, and page 181, paragraph 2. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.

10 min: "Use an Approach That Works." Questions and answers.

Song 44 and Prayer

Use an Approach That Works

1 Early Christians preached the good news to people of diverse cultures and religions. (Col. 1:23) Although the message was the same—God's Kingdom—the approach varied according to the audience. For example, when Peter spoke to Jews who had a deep respect for the Scriptures, he began by quoting the prophet Joel. (Acts 2:14-17) On the other hand, notice the way Paul reasoned with Greeks as recorded at Acts 17:22-31. Today, people in some territories respect the Scriptures, and we can freely refer to the Bible as we go from house to house. However, we may need to be more discreet when speaking to those who have no interest in the Bible or in religion or who belong to a non-Christian religion.

1. What can we learn from the varied approach of early Christians?

2 **Use the Literature Offer Effectively:** Literature offers for this service year will change every two months and will highlight magazines, tracts, and brochures. Even if people in our territory are generally not interested in the Bible, we will still be able to present something that addresses their interests. We might not read a scripture on the initial visit or directly refer to the Bible, but when interest is shown we can return with the objective of helping the householder to build faith in the Creator and his inspired Word. On the other hand, if we are preaching where people appreciate the Bible, we can use literature and an approach that reflect this. In fact, we may offer the *Bible Teach* book or the *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever* brochures at any time, regardless of what is being featured for the month. The main thing is to use an approach that works.

3 **Prepare the Soil:** A person's heart is much like soil. (Luke 8:15) Some soil needs more preparation before seeds of Bible truth can take root and grow. First-century evangelizers successfully planted in all types of soil, and this brought them satisfaction and joy. (Acts 13:48, 52) We can experience similar success by giving attention to our approach.

2. How can we use the literature offer to help those who appreciate the Bible as well as those who do not?

3. In what way are the hearts of people in our territory like soil?

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 17

Song 49 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 26 ¶16-22, box on p. 209 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Ezekiel 46-48 (10 min.)

No. 1: Ezekiel 48:1-14 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why We Should Be Honest in All Things—Eph. 4:25, 28; 5:1 (5 min.)

No. 3: Responding to Those Who Say, 'You Have Your Own Bible'—*rs* p. 279 ¶1-4 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 64

30 min: ***"Young People Ask—What Will I Do With My Life?* (Part 1)"** Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion.

Song 88 and Prayer

Young People Ask —What Will I Do With My Life? (Part 1)

As youths grow to adulthood, they must make important decisions. To help them, the video *Young People Ask —What Will I Do With My Life?* has been prepared. On the main menu, select **Play Drama,** then see if you can answer the questions in paragraph 2. Afterward, select **Interviews** on the main menu, then select **Looking Back,** and then try to answer the questions in paragraph 3.

Drama: (1) In what ways was Timothy's situation similar to that of many Christian youths today? **(2)** How was Andre pressured to excel in athletics? **(3)** What did Brother Fleissig tell Andre about **(a)** being dedicated to Jehovah as well as to a sport? (Matt. 6: 24) **(b)** the source of true happiness? **(c)** what his bowl from the concentration camp reminded him of? **(d)** the people in the picture with him and his wife? **(e)** whether he regretted giving up his dreams? (Phil. 3:8) **(4)** How did Andre's grandmother answer his question, "Is it wrong for me to want to become a track star?" (Luke 4:5-7) **(5)** Did winning the race bring Andre real satisfaction? **(6)** What did you appreciate about Brother Fleissig's final letter to Andre? (Prov. 10:22) **(7)** What did Brother Fleissig help Andre to discover?

Looking Back: (8) What careers were the brother and the sister pursuing, and why? **(9)** How successful had they become? **(10)** What was the turning point in each one's life? (2 Cor. 5: 15) **(11)** What theocratic careers replaced their former ones, and why did they feel that they could not pursue both? **(12)** Did they have any regrets for having changed their focus in life? **(13)** What did they say that has especially made you think about what you should do with your life?

Please view the other interviews and supplementary material, and be prepared to comment on them as they are discussed during the Service Meeting next week.

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WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 24

Song 45 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 27 ¶1-9 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Daniel 1-3 (10 min.)
No. 1: Daniel 2:17-30 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Are God's Heavenly Creatures Organized?—*rs* p. 280 ¶1-3 (5 min.)
No. 3: How Can We Avoid Grieving the Spirit?—Eph. 4:30 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 130
30 min: ***"Young People Ask—What Will I Do With My Life?* (Part 2)"** Questions and answers. In the one-minute introductory comments, review what was considered last week in Part 1. Conclude by warmly commending youths for their efforts to "remember" Jehovah while young. (Eccl. 12:1) Urge them to maintain their determination to use their life in Jehovah's service.
Song 91 and Prayer

Young People Ask —What Will I Do With My Life? (Part 2)

On the main menu of the video *Young People Ask—What Will I Do With My Life?* select **Interviews,** then select **Sections.** After viewing each of the three sections, use the questions in paragraph 2 as a review. Then from the main menu select **Supplementary Material** and after viewing each of the five supplementary interviews, use the questions in paragraph 3 as a review.

Sections—Dedication to Vain Pursuits or to God: (1) What goals are youths pressured to pursue? **(2)** How can 1 John 2:17 help youths decide how much secular education to pursue? **(3)** Why should we not let fear hold us back from getting baptized? **(4)** What are some things that will help us to reach the point of baptism? **Learning to Enjoy Your Ministry: (5)** Why do some not enjoy the ministry? **(6)** What are some things that can help us? **(7)** What do some fear even more than talking to a stranger, and why? **(8)** How can we overcome our fears and develop the courage to speak? **(9)** Why is it also important to develop a measure of skill in the ministry? **An Open Door to Service: (10)** How does pioneering offer many opportunities to advance spiritually? (Phil. 3:16) **(11)** Why do some hesitate to go through this door of service? **(12)** What Scriptural principles can help us overcome economic concerns? **(13)** What have some done to support themselves financially while pioneering? **(14)** What can be done if circumstances do not allow one to enter full-time service?

Supplementary material—The Value of Personal Study: (15) Why is a good routine of personal study important? **Alternative Witnessing** (now called public witnessing): **(16)** How will engaging in different forms of the ministry add to our joy? **Bethel Service: (17)** What are some of the joys of Bethel service? **Ministerial Training School: (18)** How have those who attended this school (now called the Bible School for Single Brothers) benefited? **Gilead Missionary Training: (19)** How did Peter and Fiona prepare for a missionary career, and how did they benefit from Gilead?

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 1

Song 103 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 27 ¶10-18 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Daniel 4-6 (10 min.)
No. 1: Daniel 4:18-28 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: Why True Christians Avoid Dabbling in Spiritism (5 min.)
No. 3: How Did God Convey Instructions to His Servants on Earth in Times Past?—*rs* p. 281 ¶1-2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 80
***5 min:* Start a Bible Study on the First Saturday.** Using the sample presentation on this page, demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in October. Encourage all to have a share.
15 min: How Did We Do Last Year? Talk by the service overseer. Review the congregation's activity during the past service year, focusing on the good things that were accomplished, and give appropriate commendation. Interview one or two publishers who enjoyed fine experiences. Mention one or two aspects of the ministry that the congregation can work on during the coming year, and offer practical suggestions.
10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in October. Discussion. Take 30 to 60 seconds to relate why the magazines will have appeal in your territory. Then using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.
Song 85 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **September and October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study. **November and December:** Feature one of the following tracts: *All Suffering Soon to End!, Jehovah—Who Is He?, Jesus Christ—Who Is He?,* or *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If there is interest, demonstrate a Bible study using the *Bible Teach* book or one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever.*

■ The special public talk for the 2013 Memorial season will be given during the week of April 1. The subject of the talk will be announced later. Those congregations having the visit of the circuit overseer or an assembly that weekend will have the special talk the following week. No congregation should have the special talk before April 1.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in October

"I'm sure you'll agree that life seems much too short. Do you think that one day we'll be able to eradicate disease and prolong our life span? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says." Hand the householder the October 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together material under the first subheading on page 16 and the cited scripture. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® October 1

"We are calling because many are concerned about the level of corruption in business and government. Do you think anything can be done about this problem? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says about how Jesus will act toward victims of corruption. [Read Psalm 72:12-14.] This magazine shows how corruption will soon end."

Awake!® October

"Most parents want their children to get a good education. Do you think young people who graduate from school these days are well-prepared for life's challenges? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says about the importance of acquiring knowledge and wisdom. [Read Ecclesiastes 7:12.] This magazine gives five practical suggestions to help children succeed in school."

Field Service Highlights

During the month of April, the Turks and Caicos Islands reported new peaks of 305 publishers and 50 regular pioneers. Additionally, on April 5, the Memorial was attended by 3,948 in the Bahamas, 962 in Bermuda, 1,018 in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and 2,502,055 in the United States. May we be motivated by Christ's love to follow up on interest generated by this special event.—2 Cor. 5:14.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

OCTOBER 2012

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 8

Song 75 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 27 ¶19-26, boxes on pp. 212, 214, 217 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Daniel 7-9 (10 min.)

No. 1: Daniel 7:13-22 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Does the Bible Show That True Christians Would Be Organized?—*rs* p. 282 ¶1-4 (5 min.)

No. 3: In What Ways Is Jehovah Loyal?—Rev. 15:4; 16:5 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 133

10 min: If Someone Says, 'I'm Busy.' Discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 19, paragraph 5, to page 20, paragraph 4. Consider some of the suggested responses as well as other responses that have been used successfully in the local territory. Have two brief demonstrations.

10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Matthew 21:12-16 and Luke 21:1-4 read. Consider the lessons found in these accounts.

10 min: "Could You Share in Evening Witnessing?" Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 2, invite audience to relate experiences they have enjoyed while doing evening witnessing.

Song 92 and Prayer

Could You Share in Evening Witnessing?

[1] According to the book *Daily Life in Bible Times,* the apostle Paul typically shared in the house-to-house ministry "from 4 p.m. till far into the night." We do not know whether this was Paul's actual schedule, but we do know that Paul was willing to "do all things for the sake of the good news." (1 Cor. 9:19-23) This would have included arranging his affairs to go from house to house when it was most productive to do so.

[2] Publishers in many places have traditionally gone from house to house in the mornings during the week. However, in your area, is this still the best time? One pioneer relates regarding his territory: "Hardly anyone is at home during the day. But most people are home in the evening." Evening witnessing may provide the best opportunity to reach men, in particular, with the good news. Householders are often more relaxed and willing to converse. *If it is beneficial to do so, elders should arrange meetings for service in the evening.*

[3] **Use Discernment:** When sharing in evening witnessing, discernment is important. For example, if you happen to call on someone at an inopportune time, such as during his dinner, it is best to offer to come back later. If it is dark, stand where the householder can see you, and quickly identify yourself and the purpose of your visit. It is also wise to work in pairs or in groups and to stay on well-lit streets where you are not isolated. Do not call so late that you disturb householders preparing to retire for the night. (2 Cor. 6:3) If a neighborhood is unsafe after dark, preach there during the early evening.—Prov. 22:3.

[4] **Blessings:** The ministry is far more enjoyable when we are able to give a witness. And the more we are able to witness, the more opportunities we will have to help others to "be saved and come to an accurate knowledge of truth." (1 Tim. 2:3, 4) Could you adjust your schedule to share in evening witnessing?

1. According to one scholar, when did the apostle Paul preach from house to house?

2. Why are evenings a good time to share in the ministry?

3. How may we show discernment when engaging in evening witnessing?

4. What blessings come from evening witnessing?

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 15

Song 101 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

bt chap. 28 ¶1-7 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Daniel 10-12 (10 min.)

No. 1: Daniel 11:15-27 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why Christians Do Not Seek Revenge—Rom. 12:18-21 (5 min.)

No. 3: Are God's Faithful Servants Simply Scattered Among Christendom's Churches?—*rs* p. 283 ¶1-3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 106

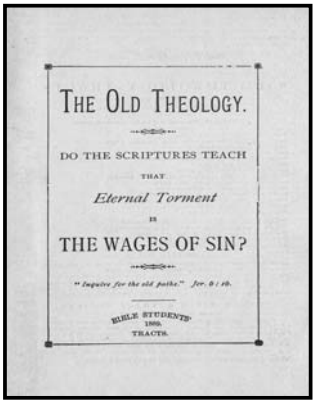
10 min: If Someone Says, 'I'm Not Interested.' Discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 16, paragraph 1, to page 18, paragraph 1. Consider some of the suggested responses as well as other responses that have been used successfully in the local territory. Have two suggestions demonstrated.

20 min: "Use Tracts to Spread the Good News." Questions and answers. When considering paragraph 5, briefly review the tracts being offered in November and demonstrate a presentation. When considering paragraph 7, demonstrate how to use tracts in informal witnessing.

Song 97 and Prayer

Use Tracts to Spread the Good News

[1] Bible tracts have long been used by Jehovah's people to spread the good news. In 1880, C. T. Russell and his associates began to produce *Bible Students' Tracts,* and these were provided to readers of the *Watch Tower* for distribution to the public. Tracts were considered so important that in 1884 when C. T. Russell registered a non-profit legal corporation for the purpose of furthering Kingdom interests, the word "tract" was included in the name, Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society, now called the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania. By 1918, more than 300 million tracts had been distributed by the Bible Students. Tracts continue to be an effective witnessing tool.


THE OLD THEOLOGY.

DO THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT

Eternal Torment

IS

THE WAGES OF SIN?

"Inquire for the old paths." Jer. 6:16.

BIBLE STUDENTS' 1909 TRACTS.

[2] **Why Effective:** Tracts are colorful and eye-catching. The concise message they contain is absorbing and informative. They are appealing to householders who may be intimidated by a magazine or a book. Tracts are easy to offer, even by new publishers and children. In addition, tracts are a handy size and easy for us to carry.

[3] Many first come in contact with the truth by means of a tract. For example, a woman in Haiti noticed one of our tracts on the street. She picked it up, read it, and exclaimed, "I have found the truth!" Eventually, she went to the Kingdom Hall, began studying the Bible, and was baptized—all because of the power of God's Word found in a tract.

[4] **From House to House:** Since tracts are an effective tool for giving a witness, they will be the offer for the month from time to time, beginning in November. Our goal is not just to hand out tracts but to use the

1. How have tracts been used by God's people?

2. Why are tracts effective?

3. Relate a personal or published experience that illustrates the value of tracts.

4. What is our goal when tracts are the offer for the month?

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tracts to start conversations. If there is interest on the initial call or on the return visit, we can demonstrate a Bible study by using the *Bible Teach* book or another study publication. How might we offer tracts from house to house? Each tract is different, so we need to be familiar with those we are offering.

[5] Our presentation should be tailored to the territory and the tract we are using. We could start the conversation by handing the tract to the householder. The attractive cover may well arouse his interest. Or we could show several tracts and allow the householder to choose what interests him. When working territory where people hesitate to open their door, we could hold the tract where the householder can see the cover, or we might ask to slide something under the door that we would like to get his opinion on. If the title of the tract is a question, we could then ask him to express his opinion on it. Or we can formulate our own question that will arouse interest and stimulate conversation. We could then read a portion of the tract's contents with the householder, pausing at the questions in the text and inviting the householder to express himself. Key scriptures can be read from the Bible. After considering some of the material, we can conclude the discussion and make definite arrangements to return. If the congregation normally leaves literature at not-at-homes, we may leave a tract out of sight if the householder is not home.

Since tracts are an effective tool for giving a witness, they will be the offer for the month from time to time, beginning in November

[6] **Street Witnessing:** Have you used tracts in street witnessing? Some passers-by are in a hurry and not inclined to stop to converse with us. It may be difficult to determine their level of interest. Instead of handing them the latest magazines without knowing whether they will read them, why not give them a tract instead? Because the cover is appealing and the message is brief, curiosity may move people to read the tract when they have a few minutes. Of course, if they are not in a hurry, we can discuss some of the contents of the tract with them.

[7] **Informal Witnessing:** It is easy to witness informally with tracts. One brother puts a few in his pocket whenever he leaves home. When he meets someone, such as a store clerk, he simply offers to give him something to read and hands him a tract. When one couple went to New York City to do some sightseeing, they realized that they would come in contact with people from various countries. So they took along the *Nations* booklet and several tracts in different languages. Then, when they heard someone speaking in a foreign language who was selling items on the sidewalk or who was sitting near them in the park or in a restaurant, they would offer him a tract in his native tongue.

[8] **"Sow Your Seed":** Tracts can be likened to seed. A farmer scatters his seed liberally because he does not know which ones will germinate and sprout. Ecclesiastes 11:6 says: "In the morning sow your seed and until the evening do not let your hand rest; for you are not knowing where this will have success, either here or there, or whether both of them will alike be good." Therefore, may we "keep scattering knowledge" by means of this very effective witnessing tool.—Prov. 15:7.

5. How may we offer tracts from house to house?
6. How could tracts be used in street witnessing?
7. Relate experiences showing how to use tracts when witnessing informally.
8. In what way are tracts like seed?

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 22

Song 71 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 28 ¶8-15 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Hosea 1-7 (10 min.)
No. 1: Hosea 6:1–7:7 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: How Can the Visible Part of Jehovah's Organization Be Identified?—*rs* p. 283 ¶4–p. 284 ¶2 (5 min.)
No. 3: Imitate Jesus by Despising Shame—Heb. 12:2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 130
30 min: ***"Young People Ask—How Can I Make Real Friends?"*** Questions and answers. Use the information in the first and last paragraphs for a brief introduction and conclusion.
Song 89 and Prayer

Young People Ask —How Can I Make Real Friends?

Jehovah designed humans to interact and form friendships. (Prov. 17: 17; 18:1, 24) In order for these relationships to be mutually beneficial, we must select our friends carefully. (Prov. 13:20) After viewing the video *Young People Ask—How Can I Make Real Friends?,* can you answer the following questions?

Introduction:

(1) What is a true friend?

Roadblocks to Friendship:

(2) How can feelings of being left out be overcome? (Phil. 2:4) **(3)** Why should we be willing to improve our personality, and who can help us to do that? (2 Cor. 13:11) **(4)** How can we open up opportunities to make more friends?—2 Cor. 6:13.

Friendship With God:

(5) How can we develop a closer relationship with Jehovah, and why is doing so worth the effort? (Ps. 34:8) **(6)** When we make Jehovah our best friend, what beneficial human friendships can we have?

The Wrong Kind of Friends:

(7) Who are bad associates? (1 Cor. 15:33) **(8)** How can the wrong friends lead someone into spiritual ruin?

A Modern-Day Drama:

(9) What does the Bible account about Dinah teach us? (Gen. 34:1, 2, 7, 19) **(10)** How did Tara justify her association with unbelieving youths? **(11)** To what dangers did Tara's school friends expose her? **(12)** Why did Tara's parents fail to see the danger she was in, but with what attitude did they help her to recover spiritually? **(13)** How did a pioneer sister prove to be a real friend to Tara? **(14)** What did Tara come to see differently?

Conclusion:

(15) What lessons have you learned from this video? **(16)** How can you use this video to help others?

May we choose friends that will help us to maintain the greatest friendship of all—friendship with God!—Ps. 15: 1, 4; Isa. 41:8.

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 29

Song 13 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
bt chap. 28 ¶16-22 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Hosea 8-14 (10 min.)
Theocratic Ministry School Review (20 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 108
15 min: "How to Benefit From Your Field Service Group." Questions and answers. When considering the box on page 6, briefly interview someone who has meetings for field service in his home. How does he prepare to have meetings for field service in his home each week? Why does he appreciate the privilege of having these meetings in his home?
15 min: "Five Ways to Find a Bible Study." Questions and answers. After considering paragraph 6, invite those who have conducted a progressive Bible study to comment on the joy they have received.
Song 122 and Prayer

Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning October 29, 2012. The date when each point is scheduled for discussion is included so that research can be done when preparing for the school each week.

1. What is represented by the altar that Ezekiel saw in vision? (Ezek. 43:13-20) [Sept. 10, *w07* 8/1 p. 10 par. 4]
2. What is pictured by the water of Ezekiel's visionary river? (Ezek. 47:1-5) [Sept. 17, *w07* 8/1 p. 11 par. 1]
3. What do the words "determined in his heart" reveal about the spiritual instruction Daniel received in his youth? (Dan. 1:8) [Sept. 24, *dp* p. 32 pars. 4-6; p. 37 par. 16]
4. What was represented, or symbolized, by the immense tree in Nebuchadnezzar's dream? (Dan. 4:10, 11, 20-22) [Oct. 1, *w07* 9/1 p. 18 par. 5]
5. What does Daniel 9:17-19 teach us in connection with prayer? [Oct. 8, *w07* 9/1 p. 20 pars. 5-6]
6. What covenant was 'kept in force for the many' until the end of the 70th week of years, or 36 C.E.? (Dan. 9:27) [Oct. 8, *w07* 9/1 p. 20 par. 4]
7. What can we conclude from the angel's telling Daniel that "the prince of the royal realm of Persia" had stood in opposition to him? (Dan. 10:13) [Oct. 15, *w11* 9/1 p. 8 pars. 2-3]
8. What Bible prophecy regarding the Messiah was fulfilled in connection with Daniel 11:20? [Oct. 15, *dp* pp. 232-233 pars. 5-6]
9. According to Hosea 4:11, what is one of the dangers of drinking too much alcohol? [Oct. 22, *w10* 1/1 pp. 4-5]
10. What vital lesson should we learn from Hosea 6:6? [Oct. 22, *w07* 9/15 p. 16 par. 8; *w05* 11/15 p. 24 pars. 11-12]

How to Benefit From Your Field Service Group

[1] Do you miss certain aspects of the Congregation Book Study? Groups were small and the setting more relaxed. This made it easy to develop friendships that were a source of spiritual support. (Prov. 18:24) The book study overseer got to know our unique circumstances and could provide personal encouragement. (Prov. 27:23; 1 Pet. 5:2, 3) These benefits are still available through our field service group.

1. What benefits of the Congregation Book Study arrangement are still available through our field service group?

[2] **Take the Initiative:** Field service groups are generally the same size that book study groups were. By working in the ministry "side by side" with others, a close bond can result. (Phil. 1:27) How many in your group have you worked with? Could you "widen out" in this regard? (2 Cor. 6: 13) Additionally, we might occasionally invite someone from our group to join us for our Family Worship evening or for a meal. In some congregations, field service groups take turns providing hospitality to the visiting speaker. On their assigned week, the group gathers for a meal and mutual encouragement regardless of whether the speaker can attend.

[3] Although the congregation now meets together on one less occasion a week, this does not mean that publishers should receive less shepherding. Group overseers are appointed in each group to give individuals personal encouragement and training for the ministry. If your group overseer has not yet made an appointment to work with you in the ministry, why not ask to work with him? In addition, the service overseer shares in the ministry with a different group one weekend each month. In smaller congregations where there are only a few field service groups, he may arrange to visit each group twice during the year. Do you arrange your schedule to go in the ministry when he serves your group?

[4] It is often advantageous for each group to meet separately for field service on weekends. Having several locations to meet for service at approximately the same time may make it easier for publishers to travel to the meeting for service and perhaps to the territory. Publishers can be organized quickly and begin heading to the territory without delay. It is also easier for the group overseer to give close attention to those in his care. However, circumstances may make it advisable for two or more groups to combine. If the entire congregation meets together for service on the first Saturday of the month or after the *Watchtower* Study, it is often beneficial for each group to sit together and the group overseer to be given a few minutes to organize his group before the meeting for field service is concluded with prayer.—See the box "Can You Offer Your Home?"

[5] Although the Congregation Book Study arrangement has ended, Jehovah continues to provide everything we need to do his will. (Heb. 13:20, 21) Under Jehovah's care, we lack nothing. (Ps. 23:1) Many blessings are available through our field service group. If we take the initiative and 'sow bountifully,' we will "reap bountifully." —2 Cor. 9:6.

2. How can we take the initiative to develop friendships in our field service group that are a source of spiritual support?

3. What are some opportunities to receive shepherding in our field service group?

4. (a) How are meetings for service organized? (b) Why should we consider offering our home for meetings for field service?

5. Although the Congregation Book Study arrangement has ended, of what can we be confident?

Can You Offer Your Home?

Some congregations combine groups for service on the weekend because there is a shortage of homes in which to meet. Meetings for field service are an extension of the congregation arrangement, so hosting these is a real privilege. Could you make your home available? Do not hold back because your home is humble. The elders will take into account the location of your home and other factors similar to those considered when they selected locations for the book study. If you would like to offer your home, let your group overseer know.

Five Ways to Find a Bible Study

[1] Have you found it a challenge to find someone with whom to study the Bible? Keep trying. Jehovah blesses those who do not give up in doing his will. (Gal. 6:9) Below are five suggestions to help you.

[2] **Direct Approach:** Many people know that we offer *The Watchtower* and *Awake!,* but they may not know that we offer Bible studies. Why not try the direct approach when going from house to house? You could also ask interested people whom you call on whether they would like a Bible study. If they decline, you can continue leaving literature and cultivating the interest. One brother had been calling on a married couple for years as part of his magazine route. After leaving them the latest magazines, he turned around to leave but as an afterthought asked: "Would you like a Bible study?" To his surprise they answered yes. Now they are baptized.

[3] **Meeting Attenders:** Do not assume that interested ones you see at congregation meetings already have a Bible study. One brother reports: "More than half of the studies I've had were started by speaking to those who attended meetings." One sister decided to approach a shy woman whose baptized daughters were in the congregation. The woman had been attending meetings for about 15 years and always came into the Kingdom Hall just as the meeting began and left as soon as it was finished. The woman agreed to a study and eventually came into the truth. The sister writes: "I'm just sorry that I waited 15 years to ask her if she would like to study!"

[4] **Referrals:** One sister endeavors to accompany others on their Bible studies. With the teacher's permission, at the conclusion she asks the student if she knows any others who might enjoy having their own study. When offering the *Bible Teach* book to someone you have been calling on, you might ask: "Do you know anyone else who would enjoy a copy?" At times, circumstances do not allow publishers and pioneers to conduct a study with someone they meet in the territory. So let others know that you are available to conduct a Bible study.

[5] **Unbelieving Mates:** Are there publishers in your congregation who are married to unbelievers? Some unbelievers resist talking about the Bible with their Christian mate but would accept an invitation to study with someone outside the family. It is often best to consult with the believing husband or wife beforehand in order to determine the best approach.

[6] **Prayer:** Do not underestimate the power of prayer. (Jas. 5:16) Jehovah promises to listen to our requests when they are in harmony with his will. (1 John 5:14) One brother who had a very busy schedule began praying for a Bible study. His wife wondered if he would have the time to care for a student, especially if the student had many problems. So she made these concerns known to Jehovah when praying for her husband to find a study. Their prayers were answered about two weeks later when a pioneer in the congregation found a man who wanted to study and turned the study over to the brother. The wife writes: "To any who may feel that conducting a Bible study would be more than they can handle, I say: Be specific in your prayers, and don't stop praying about it. We have had more joy than I could have imagined." With perseverance, you too may be able to find a Bible study and experience the joy of helping someone onto "the road leading off into life."—Matt. 7:13, 14.

1. If it is a challenge to find a Bible study in our territory, what should we do, and why?
2. How can we use the direct approach to start a study?
3. Should we assume that meeting attenders are studying the Bible with someone? Explain.
4. How could we find a study by means of referrals?
5. Why might we ask unbelieving mates of congregation members if they would like to study?
6. How valuable is prayer when trying to find a study?

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 5

Song 115 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 1 ¶1-7 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Joel 1-3 (10 min.)
No. 1: Joel 2:17-27 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: In What Practical Ways Might We Apply Proverbs 22:3? (5 min.)
No. 3: How Can We Show Respect for Jehovah's Organization?—*rs* p. 284 ¶3-7 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 86
10 min: The Women Telling the Good News Are a Large Army. (Ps. 68:11) Discussion based on the *2012 Yearbook,* page 117, paragraph 2, to page 118, paragraph 2; and page 130, paragraph 1, to page 131, paragraph 2. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.
10 min: Local needs.
10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in November. Discussion. Take 30 to 60 seconds to relate why the magazines will have appeal in your territory. Then, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask, and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.
Song 105 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study. **November and December:** Feature one of the following tracts: *All Suffering Soon to End!, Jehovah—Who Is He?, Jesus Christ—Who Is He?,* or *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If there is interest, demonstrate a Bible study using the *Bible Teach* book or one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever.* **January**: Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *Does God Really Care About Us?, When Someone You Love Dies,* or *You Can Be God's Friend!* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in November

"Most of us are interested in good government. In your opinion, what kind of government would be able to solve mankind's problems? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says." Hand the householder the November 1 *Watchtower,* and consider together material under the first subheading on page 16 and at least one of the scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM November 1

"We would like to get your opinion. If you could ask God one question, what would it be? [Allow for response.] According to Jesus, it's proper to seek answers to our sincere questions. [Read Matthew 7:7.] This magazine gives the Bible's answers to these three important questions." Show the householder the questions at the bottom of page 3.

Awake!® November

"We are visiting today as a public service to families. Single-parent families have become very common. Do you think they have more challenges than families with both parents? [Allow for response.] Many parents have found practical advice in the Bible. [Read 2 Timothy 3:16.] This magazine outlines some suggestions to help single parents succeed in their demanding role."

Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report two new all-time peaks for May! The Turks and Caicos Islands reported 306 publishers and 3,485 return visits. Additionally, when comparing the first nine months of this service year with the same period last year, the Bahamas had an increase of 6.3 percent in regular pioneers, Bermuda had an increase of 6 percent in Bible studies, and the United States experienced an increase of 4.5 percent in regular pioneers. How encouraging to see the efforts made in reaching all with this life-saving good news.—Acts 5:42.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 2012

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 12

Song 66 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 1 ¶8-14 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Amos 1-9 (10 min.)

No. 1: Amos 3:1-15 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Does the "New Testament" Refer to a Future Earthly Paradise, or Is That Only in the "Old Testament"?—*rs* p. 285 ¶1-3 (5 min.)

No. 3: How Can We Benefit From an Understanding of Psalm 51:17? (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 68

10 min: If Someone Says, 'You Don't Believe in Jesus.' Discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 219, paragraphs 1-3. Have one brief demonstration.

10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Mark 1:16-20 read. Consider how this account can help us in our ministry.

10 min: "See Good for Your Hard Work." Questions and answers.

Song 98 and Prayer

See Good for Your Hard Work

1 Man was designed to "see good because of his hard work." (Eccl. 2:24) However, when we fail to see good results from our ministry, discouragement can rob us of joy and dampen our zeal. What can help us to maintain a positive attitude?

2 **Have Realistic Expectations:** Remember that although those who responded to Jesus were few, his ministry was unquestionably a success. (John 17:4) In his illustration of the sower, Jesus foretold that most hearts would ultimately not be receptive to the seedlike Kingdom message. (Matt. 13:3-8, 18-22) Nonetheless, our diligent efforts still accomplish much.

3 **How We Bear Much Fruit:** According to Jesus' illustration, those who accept the message would "bear fruit." (Matt. 13:23) After a wheat stalk sprouts and matures, the fruit it produces is not little *wheat* stalks, but new *seed*. So the fruitage that successful Christians produce is, not necessarily new disciples, but the many-fold duplication of Kingdom seed—our expressions about the Kingdom. This results in much "good" from which we can obtain satisfaction, regardless of whether people respond. We are contributing to the sanctification of Jehovah's name. (Isa. 43:10-12; Matt. 6:9) We are enjoying the privilege of being God's fellow workers. (1 Cor. 3:9) And such "fruit of lips" delights Jehovah.—Heb. 13:15, 16.

4 In addition, our hard work may be having results that we do not see. It is possible that some who heard Jesus preach did not become his disciples until after he finished his earthly ministry. Similarly, Kingdom seed that we sow may not take root and grow in a person's heart until later, and he may come into the truth without our knowing. Indeed, our ministry accomplishes a great deal of good. Therefore, may we "keep bearing much fruit" and prove ourselves Jesus' disciples.—John 15:8.

1. What could dampen our zeal for the ministry?
2. Why should we have realistic expectations about the response to our ministry?
3. How may we "bear fruit" even if we see little response to our preaching?
4. What results, unknown to us, may our ministry have?

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 19

Song 81 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

jr chap. 1 ¶15-21 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Obadiah 1–Jonah 4 (10 min.)

No. 1: Jonah 2:1-10 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: How True Worship Unites People of Different Backgrounds—Ps. 133:1 (5 min.)

No. 3: Why the Paradise Referred to at Luke 23:43 Cannot Be a Part of Hades or of Heaven—*rs* p. 286 ¶1–p. 287 ¶1 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 95

15 min: Serving Where the Need Is Greater Brings Many Blessings From Jehovah. Discussion based on the *2012 Yearbook,* page 114, paragraph 1, to page 116, paragraph 1; page 151, paragraph 3; page 153, paragraphs 1 and 2; and page 170, paragraph 1, to page 171, paragraph 3. Invite audience to comment on the lessons learned.

15 min: "Do Not Limit Yourself—Overcoming Feelings of Inadequacy." Questions and answers. Briefly interview someone with limited secular education or a timid personality who has shared in the Bible study work.

Song 26 and Prayer

Do Not Limit Yourself —Overcoming Feelings of Inadequacy

[1] Do you hold back from offering a Bible study because you are not confident in your ability to conduct one effectively? At times faithful servants in the past, such as Moses and Jeremiah, felt unqualified for their assignments. (Ex. 3:10, 11; 4:10; Jer. 1:4-6) Therefore, such feelings are not uncommon. How can they be overcome?

1. Why do some hold back from offering a Bible study?

[2] We should remember that Jehovah never asks us to do something that is beyond our ability. (Ps. 103:14) So our commission to "make disciples," "teaching them," is one that we can fulfill. (Matt. 28:19, 20) It is not a privilege that Jehovah has bestowed upon only the most experienced or the most talented among us. (1 Cor. 1:26, 27) Therefore, we should not be content to limit our ministry to the door-to-door preaching work and leave the Bible study activity for others.

[3] **Jehovah Qualifies Us:** Our qualifications to make disciples issue from Jehovah. (2 Cor. 3:5) Through his organization he has taught us Bible truths that even the most educated people in this world do not know. (1 Cor. 2:7, 8) He has preserved a record of the teaching methods of the Great Teacher, Jesus, for us to imitate, and he gives us ongoing training through the congregation. In addition, Jehovah has not left us to formulate our own curriculum for teaching the Bible. He has provided tools, such as the *Bible Teach* book, that outline the truth in a logical and easy-to-understand way. Conducting a Bible study may be less challenging than we think.

[4] Moses and Jeremiah were able to fulfill their assignments with Jehovah's help. (Ex. 4:11, 12; Jer. 1:7, 8) We too can ask Jehovah to help us. After all, when we conduct a Bible study, we are teaching someone the truth about Jehovah, which is pleasing in God's eyes. (1 John 3:22) Therefore, make it your goal to share in the Bible study work, a most enjoyable and rewarding feature of the ministry.

2. Why should we not be content to limit our ministry to the door-to-door preaching work while leaving the Bible study activity for others?
3. How has Jehovah qualified us for the Bible study work?
4. Why can we have confidence that Jehovah will help us?

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WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 26

Song 62 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 2 ¶1-6, chart on p. 19 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Micah 1-7 (10 min.)
No. 1: Micah 3:1-12 (4 min. or less)
No. 2: What Points to the Paradise Referred to at Luke 23:43 as Being Earthly? —*rs* p. 287 ¶2–p. 288 ¶2 (5 min.)
No. 3: Why We Know That Jehovah Is the Hearer of Prayer—1 John 5:14 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 56
***5 min:* Start a Bible Study on the First Saturday.** Using the sample presentation on page 4, demonstrate how a study may be started on the first Saturday in December. Encourage all to have a share.
10 min: Their Surplus Offset a Deficiency. Talk by an elder based on the November 15, 2012, *Watchtower,* pages 8-9.
15 min: "Do Not Limit Yourself—Dealing With a Busy Schedule." Questions and answers. Briefly interview someone who has shared in the Bible study work despite having a busy schedule.
Song 73 and Prayer

Do Not Limit Yourself —Dealing With a Busy Schedule

[1] Some hesitate to offer a Bible study because they have a busy schedule. Caring for a Bible student takes time. Time is needed to prepare for the study, to conduct it, and to help the student overcome personal obstacles. The apostle Paul said that he imparted his soul to help those in Thessalonica come to know Jehovah. (1 Thess. 2:7, 8) How can we conduct a Bible study even if we have a full schedule?

1. Why do some hesitate to offer a Bible study?

[2] **Worship Takes Time:** The simple truth is that worship requires time. For example, we regularly take time to attend the meetings, to share in the ministry, to read the Bible, and to pray. A busy married person will happily make time to spend with his or her mate. How much more should we gladly 'buy out' time to worship Jehovah because we love him. (Eph. 5:15-17; 1 John 5:3) According to Jesus, a vital part of our worship is the disciple-making work. (Matt. 28:19, 20) Reflecting on this will help us not to hold back from accepting the responsibility of conducting a Bible study.

[3] But what if our schedule is disrupted by employment, chronic health problems, or theocratic assignments? Some publishers who must occasionally be away conduct their Bible study over the phone or by computer conference. Those whose schedule is disrupted by chronic health problems have arranged for the student to come to their home for the study. Some have arranged for a reliable publisher to be their back-up and conduct the study when they are not available.

[4] Paul got much joy from giving of his time and energy to help others learn the truth. (Acts 20:35) When he contemplated the fruitage of his labor in Thessalonica, he was moved to thank Jehovah. (1 Thess. 1:2) Our joy and satisfaction in the ministry can be increased if we do not let a busy schedule limit us from participating in the Bible study work.

2. How does love for Jehovah affect how we use our time?
3. How can we care for a Bible study even if circumstances disrupt our schedule for the ministry?
4. What blessings come from participating in the Bible study work?

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 3

Song 128 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 2 ¶7-13, box on p. 20 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Nahum 1–Habakkuk 3 (10 min.)

No. 1: Habakkuk 2:1-14 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Why Speak the Truth With Conviction?—2 Tim. 1:7, 8 (5 min.)

No. 3: How Can Any of Us Acquire True Knowledge and Wisdom?—*rs* p. 288 ¶3–p. 289 ¶2 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 106

10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in December. Discussion. Take 30 to 60 seconds to relate why the magazines will have appeal in your territory. Then, using the cover series of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for the cover series of *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.

10 min: Local needs.

10 min: Experiences Offering Tracts. Discussion by the service overseer. Invite audience to relate experiences they enjoyed while offering tracts during November. Have two publishers who had success demonstrate how they presented the tracts from house to house.

Song 96 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **November and December:** Feature one of the following tracts: *All Suffering Soon to End!, Jehovah—Who Is He?, Jesus Christ—Who Is He?,* or *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If there is interest, demonstrate a Bible study using the *Bible Teach* book or one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever.* **January and February**: Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *Does God Really Care About Us?, When Someone You Love Dies,* or *You Can Be God's Friend!* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

■ Donations for the worldwide work that are sent directly to the branch office should be made payable to "Watchtower." The branch office's financial address is Watchtower, c/o Treasurer's Office, 25 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201-1300.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in December

"This time of year, many people are thinking about Jesus. In your opinion, what was Jesus' biggest accomplishment? [Allow for response.] Notice the title of this article on page 16." Hand the householder the December 1 issue of *The Watchtower,* and consider together the material under one of the subheadings and at least one of the cited scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM December 1

"During this season, many people get into what is called the Christmas spirit. Which of these points, do you think, is the most important part of that spirit? [Show the list on page 3 and allow for response. Then turn to the corresponding article and read the theme scripture.] This magazine outlines practical ways that we can remember Jesus throughout the year, not just during Christmastime."

Awake!® December

"We are visiting because many feel stressed and under pressure. Does it seem to you that people tend to lose their patience more quickly these days? [Allow for response.] Some people believe that we are living during the stressful time prophesied about here at 2 Timothy 3:1. [Read] This magazine explains why impatience is harmful and gives suggestions on how to be more patient."

Field Service Highlights

During the month of June, the Turks and Caicos Islands reported two new all-time peaks of 309 publishers and 3,532 return visits. Also, when comparing this month with the same month last year, the number of Bible studies increased by 4 percent in the Bahamas and by 8.5 percent in Bermuda, and the total number of publishers in the United States increased by 2.1 percent. We rejoice to see so many responding to the invitation to be instructed by Jehovah.—Mic. 4:2.

OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

DECEMBER 2012

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 10

Song 32 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 2 ¶14-19, box on p. 25 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Zephaniah 1–Haggai 2 (10 min.)

No. 1: Haggai 1:1-13 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: What Is the Origin of Human Philosophies?—*rs* p. 289 ¶3–p. 290 ¶2 (5 min.)

No. 3: By Gaining the Mind of Christ, We Know More About Jehovah—Matt. 11:27 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 107

15 min: The Theocratic Ministry School for 2013. Talk by the school overseer. Using the Theocratic Ministry School instructions for 2013, discuss points needing emphasis locally. Encourage all to be diligent in fulfilling their assignments, in participating in Bible highlights, and in applying the suggestions given weekly from the *Ministry School* book.

15 min: "Be Peaceable With All Men." Questions and answers. Have a brief two-part demonstration showing first the improper and then the proper way to respond to an irate householder.

Song 39 and Prayer

"Be Peaceable With All Men"

1 Jehovah's people are peace-loving, and our ministry is one of peace. (Isa. 52:7) At times, though, we encounter people who are upset because we have called at their door. What will help us to be peaceable in such situations?—Rom. 12:18.

1. What Bible counsel should we apply when encountering householders who are upset?

2 **Have Insight:** Although some react angrily because they oppose the truth, others may display irritation for reasons unrelated to our message. Perhaps we called at an inopportune time. The householder may be upset over personal problems. Even if it is the good news that has made him angry, we should remember that his response is likely because he has been misled. (2 Cor. 4:4) Having insight will help us to remain calm and not take his reaction personally.—Prov. 19:11.

3 **Demonstrate Respect:** Many in the territory have strongly held beliefs. (2 Cor. 10:4) They have a right to choose whether they will listen or not. Never would we want to belittle a householder's beliefs or convey an attitude of superiority. If we are asked to leave, we should respectfully comply.

4 **Speak Graciously:** Even if we are verbally abused, our reply should be mild and gracious. (Col. 4:6; 1 Pet. 2:23) Rather than being drawn into an argument, try to find common ground. Perhaps we can kindly inquire about the reasons for the householder's objection. In order to avoid antagonizing him further, however, at times it is best not to try to continue the conversation.—Prov. 9:7; 17:14.

5 If we are peaceable, the householder may well remember our reaction and listen the next time someone tries to give him a witness. (Rom. 12:20, 21) Even if he seems firm in his opposition, one day he may become our brother. (Gal. 1:13, 14) Regardless of whether he ever takes an interest in the truth, we will honor Jehovah and adorn our teaching if we maintain our self-control and demonstrate peaceableness.—2 Cor. 6:3.

2. Why is it important for us to have insight?
3. How may we demonstrate respect for the householder?
4. What does it mean to speak graciously?
5. What benefits come from being peaceable in the ministry?

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 17

Song 97 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

jr chap. 2 ¶20-27, box on p. 29 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Zechariah 1-8 (10 min.)

No. 1: Zechariah 8:1-13 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: How We Show That Jehovah Is Our Sovereign Lord—Ps. 73:28 (5 min.)

No. 3: Why Is It an Evidence of Clear Thinking to Study the Teachings of Jesus Christ Instead of Human Philosophy?—*rs* p. 290 ¶3–p. 291 ¶3 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 65

***5* min: "Ideas for Offering the Magazines in . . ."** Discussion.

10 min: The Message We Must Proclaim—"Fear the True God and Keep His Commandments." Enthusiastic talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 272, to the subheading on page 275.

15 min: Have You Tried It? Discussion. By means of a talk, briefly review information from these recent articles in *Our Kingdom Ministry:* "Witness in Business Territory With Confidence" (*km* 3/12), "Help People to Listen to God" (*km* 7/12), and "Could You Share in Evening Witnessing?" (*km* 10/12). Invite audience to comment on how they have benefited from applying the suggestions in these articles.

Song 117 and Prayer

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 24

Song 5 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

jr chap. 3 ¶1-6 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Zechariah 9-14 (10 min.)

No. 1: Zechariah 11:1-13 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: Whose Prayers Is God Willing to Hear?—*rs* p. 292 ¶1–p. 293 ¶2 (5 min.)

No. 3: In What Situations Might We Apply Proverbs 15:1? (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 75

30 min: How We Can Make Good Use of Our Official Web Site. Discussion of pages 3-6. When considering page 4, have a three-minute demonstration of a family concluding their Family Worship evening. The family head asks for ideas about what to cover the following week, and the children point out items from the "Teenagers" section of the Web site that they would like to discuss. Invite audience to comment on how they have used jw.org, or plan to use it, for personal and family study. When considering page 5, have a three-minute demonstration of a publisher with a mobile device using the site to answer a householder's question about our beliefs. When considering page 6, have a four-minute demonstration of a publisher talking to an interested person who prefers to read in a different language. The publisher uses his mobile device or the householder's computer to display a page from the *Know the Truth* tract or the *Bible Teach* book in the householder's language and discusses it with him. Invite audience to comment on how they have used jw.org in the ministry.

Song 101 and Prayer

"Ideas for Offering the Magazines in . . ."

We customarily have a monthly Service Meeting part about offering the magazines. Its purpose is not to review the contents of the magazines. Rather, this part is designed to *discuss ideas* for offering the magazines. Therefore, according to the instructions, the assigned brother gives a *very brief* introduction to stimulate enthusiasm for the magazines. Then, he obtains publishers' suggestions on one article (or series) at a time so that all can follow along and take note of ideas they want to use. Rather than inviting the audience to give an entire presentation, he requests several comments on an interest-arousing question to ask and then asks for some comments on a scripture to read. He concludes by having demonstrations for each magazine. We are encouraged to review the magazines in advance and to be ready to give our suggestions. If all prepare well, this part will help us to sharpen the face of one another.—Prov. 27:17.

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Our Official Web Site—Designed to Benefit Us and Others

Jesus commissioned us to preach the good news of the Kingdom "in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations." (Matt. 24:14) In order to help us 'fully accomplish our ministry,' watchtower.org, jw-media.org, and jw.org have been combined into the redesigned jw.org Web site.—2 Tim. 4:5.

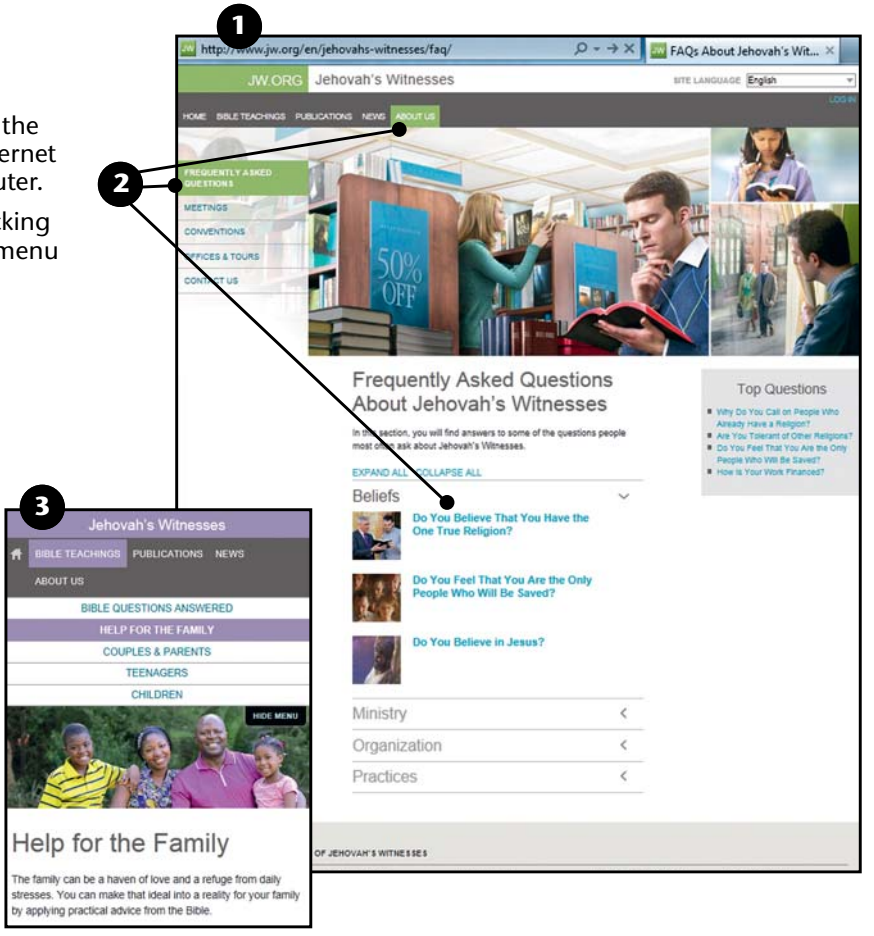
"All the Inhabited Earth": About one third of the earth's population uses the Internet. It has become the primary source of information for many, especially young people. Our site gives Internet users truthful answers to Bible questions. It introduces them to Jehovah's organization and makes it easy for them to request a free home Bible study. It enables the good news to penetrate areas of the earth where people have few opportunities to hear the Kingdom message.

"All the Nations": In order to give a witness to "all the nations," we must present Bible truth in different languages. Visitors to jw.org can easily find information in about 400 languages, more than any other Web site.

Make Good Use of It: The redesigned jw.org Web site is not just for the purpose of witnessing to unbelievers. It has been designed for use by Jehovah's Witnesses too. If you have access to the Internet, we encourage you to get acquainted with jw.org. The following are some suggestions on how to use it.

Try It

1. Enter www.jw.org in the address field of the Internet browser of your computer.
2. Explore the site by clicking the section headings, menu options, and links.
3. Try using jw.org on your Internet-enabled mobile device. The page layout adjusts to fit the smaller screen, but the information is the same.



Our Official Web Site—Use It for Personal and Family Study

Read the Latest Magazine Online: Read *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* online several weeks before receiving the printed copies in the congregation. Listen to audio recordings of a magazine.—Go to "Publications/Magazines."

Read Material That Appears Only on the Web Site: Some material, such as "For Young People," "My Bible Lessons," "For Family Review," and "Young People Ask," now appears only on our Web site. Go online and consider some of this material during your personal and family study.—Go to "Bible Teachings/Children" or "Bible Teachings/Teenagers."

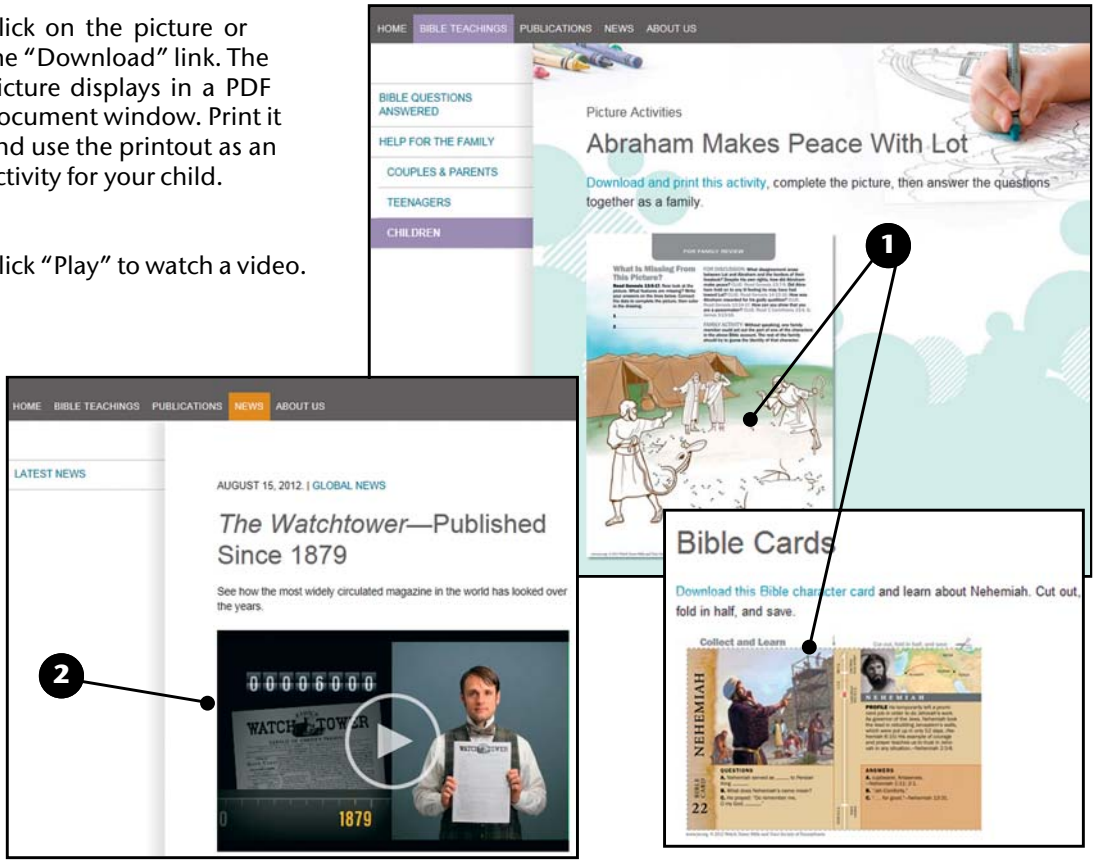
Get the Latest News: Read encouraging reports and experiences, and watch video clips that highlight the progress of our work around the world. Reports on disasters and persecution can help us to be specific in our prayers for the affected brothers. (Jas. 5:16)—Go to "News."

Do Research Using *Online Library*: If this feature is available in your language, use a computer or a mobile device to read the daily text online or to do research in some of our recent publications.—Go to "Publications/Online Library," or type www.wol.jw.org in the address field of your browser.

Try It

1. Click on the picture or the "Download" link. The picture displays in a PDF document window. Print it and use the printout as an activity for your child.

2. Click "Play" to watch a video.



Our Official Web Site —Use It in Your Ministry

Direct People to the Web Site: Some who hesitate to converse with us or accept literature are willing to investigate Jehovah's Witnesses by looking at jw.org in the privacy of their home. So publicize the Web site at every appropriate opportunity.

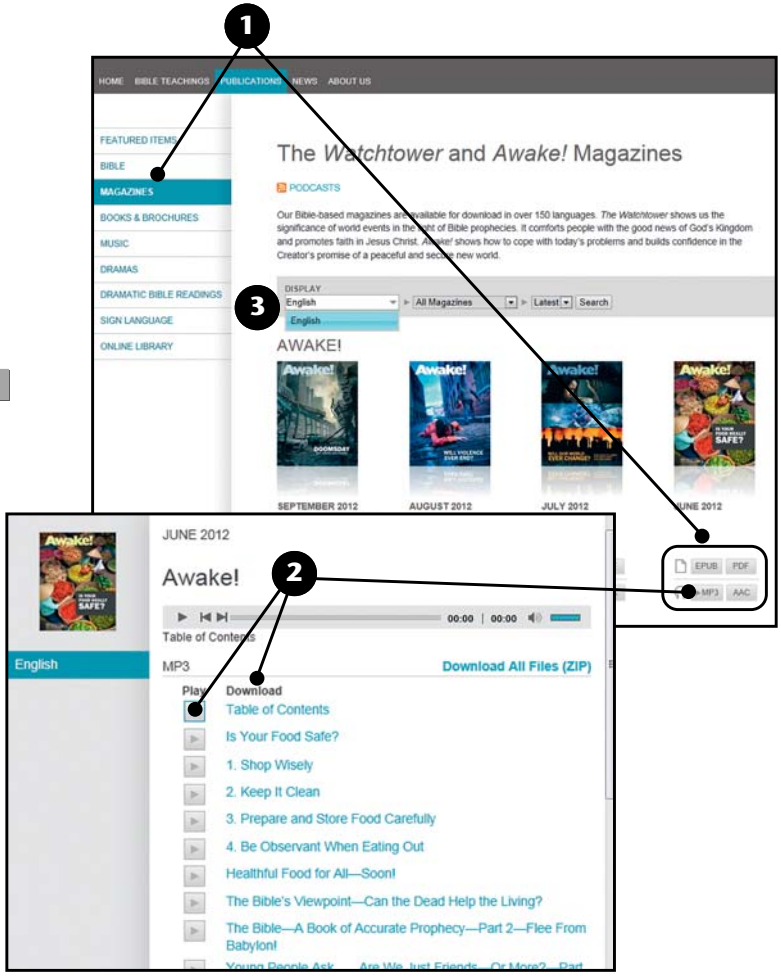
Answer Questions: At times a householder, an interested person, or an acquaintance will ask a question about Jehovah's Witnesses or our beliefs. Show him the answer on the spot, using a mobile device or a computer. It is often best to read the cited scriptures directly from the Bible. If you do not have ready access to the Internet, explain how the person can use jw.org to find the answer himself.—Go to "Bible Teachings/Bible Questions Answered" or "About Us/Frequently Asked Questions."

Send an Article or a Publication to Someone You Know: Attach a downloaded PDF or an EPUB to an e-mail. Or download an audio version of a publication onto a CD. Each time you give someone who is not baptized a *complete* electronic book, brochure, or magazine, you may count it as a placement. Material should not be sent anonymously or in bulk. Neither should it be uploaded to any other Internet Web site.—Go to "Publications."

Show the Latest News About Jehovah's Witnesses: This will help Bible students and others you are calling on to develop appreciation for the worldwide scope of our work and our Christian unity. (Ps. 133:1)—Go to "News."

Try It

1. Under "Publications," find the item you wish to download, and click the button for the text or audio format you want.
2. Click the MP3 button to display a list of individual articles. Click the article title to download it or to listen to it online.
3. Choose another language from this list if you want to download a publication in that language.



Our Official Web Site—Use It to Help Someone Who Speaks a Different Language

Show Him Our Web Site: Demonstrate how he can use the "Site Language" list to see the Web site in his language. (In some languages, only a portion of the site is available.)

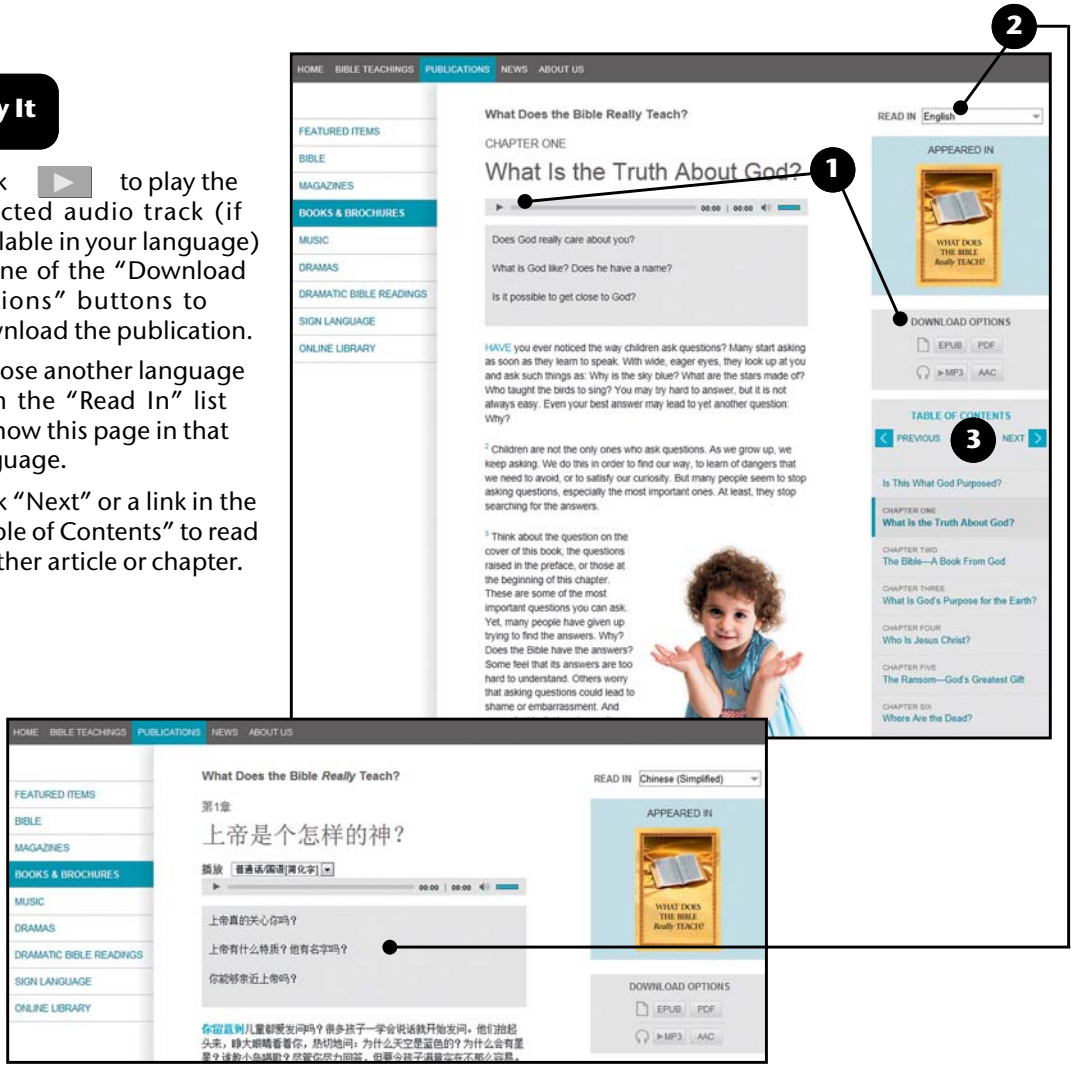
Show Him a Web Page in His Language: Display a page from one of our publications, such as the *Bible Teach* book or the *Know the Truth* tract. Choose the householder's language from the "Read In" list.

Let Him Listen to an Article: Find an article for which there is an audio track in the person's language, and play it for him. If you are learning another language, improve your skill by listening to an audio track in that language as you read.—Go to "Publications/Books and Brochures" or "Publications/Magazines."

Witness to the Deaf: If you find a deaf person, play a sign-language video of a chapter from the Bible, a book, a brochure, or a tract. —Go to "Publications/Sign Language."

Try It

1. Click ▶ to play the selected audio track (if available in your language) or one of the "Download Options" buttons to download the publication.
2. Choose another language from the "Read In" list to show this page in that language.
3. Click "Next" or a link in the "Table of Contents" to read another article or chapter.



WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 31

Song 60 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 3 ¶7-12 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Malachi 1-4 (10 min.)
Theocratic Ministry School Review (20 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 72
10 min: "New Series to Appear in *The Watchtower.*" Talk. Use the sample presentation on page 8 to demonstrate how we can use the magazines to start a Bible study on the first Saturday in January.
10 min: What Do We Learn? Discussion. Have Luke 10:38-42 read. Consider how this account can help us in our ministry.
10 min: The Literature Offer for January and February. Discussion. Consider features of the literature being offered, and have two presentations demonstrated.
Song 134 and Prayer

Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning December 31, 2012. The date when each point is scheduled for discussion is included so that research can be done when preparing for the school each week.

1. How has the prophecy recorded at Joel 2:1-10, 28 about the invasion by insects been fulfilled? [Nov. 5, *w07* 10/1 p. 13 par. 1]
2. In whom does Amos 8:11 find fulfillment, and what question should we ask ourselves, since we are living amid spiritual plenty? [Nov. 12, *jd* pp. 60-61 par. 9]
3. What may have contributed to the Edomites' being presumptuous of heart, and what reality must we never forget? (Obad. 3, 4) [Nov. 19, *w07* 11/1 p. 14 par. 1]
4. In what way did Jehovah show regret over the calamity that he had spoken of causing to the inhabitants of Nineveh? (Jonah 3:8, 10) [Nov. 19, *w07* 11/1 p. 15 par. 1]
5. How can walking in God's name strengthen our friendship with him? (Mic. 4:5) [Nov. 26, *jd* p. 88 par. 12]
6. What assurance does the fulfillment of the prophecy recorded at Nahum 2:6-10 give us? [Dec. 3, *w07* 11/15 p. 9 par. 2; *w88* 2/15 p. 28 par. 7]
7. What is the meaning of Haggai 1:6, and what lesson should we take to heart? [Dec. 10, *w06* 4/15 p. 22 pars. 12-15]
8. How can we apply the practical advice recorded at Zechariah 7:10 that we "scheme out nothing bad against one another" in our hearts? [Dec. 17, *jd* p. 113 par. 6; *w07* 12/1 p. 11 par. 3]
9. Why are the words of Zechariah 4:6, 7 comforting to worshippers of Jehovah today? [Dec. 17, *w07* 12/1 p. 11 par. 1]
10. In view of what is stated at Malachi 3:16, why should we never weaken in our determination to maintain our integrity to God? [Dec. 31, *w07* 12/15 p. 29 par. 3]

New Series to Appear in *The Watchtower*

On the first Saturday of each month, we have been using articles from the *Watchtower* series "Learn From God's Word" to start Bible studies. Starting in January, this series is being replaced by "Bible Questions Answered," which will appear on the back page of the public edition. We can use "Bible Questions Answered" in the ministry in much the same way that we used "Learn From God's Word." (*km* 12/10 p. 2) As in the past, *Our Kingdom Ministry* will contain a sample presentation that we can use on the first Saturday of the month.

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 7

Song 104 and Prayer

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
jr chap. 3 ¶13-19 (30 min.)

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Matthew 1-6 (10 min.)

No. 1: Matthew 5:21-32 (4 min. or less)

No. 2: What Could Make a Person's Prayers Unacceptable to God?—*rs* p. 293 ¶3–p. 294 ¶3 (5 min.)

No. 3: What It Means to Have Jehovah as "Your Share"—Num. 18:20 (5 min.)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 38

10 min: Ideas for Offering the Magazines in January. Discussion. Take 30 to 60 seconds to relate why the magazines will have appeal in your territory. Then, using the cover subject of *The Watchtower,* invite the audience to give suggestions on an interest-arousing question to ask and then invite suggestions on a scripture to read. Do the same for *Awake!* and, if time allows, for one other article from either magazine. Demonstrate how each issue may be offered.

10 min: Local needs.

10 min: A Clean Kingdom Hall Honors Jehovah. Talk by an elder. Jehovah is a holy God, so physical cleanness should be a priority among his people. (Ex. 30:17-21; 40:30-32) By keeping our place of worship clean and in good repair, we bring Jehovah glory. (1 Pet. 2:12) Relate local or published experiences showing how the appearance of a Kingdom Hall resulted in a witness to the community. Interview the brother who coordinates cleaning and maintenance regarding local arrangements. Encourage all to share in the upkeep of the Kingdom Hall.

Song 127 and Prayer

Announcements

■ Literature offer for **December:** Feature one of the following tracts: *All Suffering Soon to End!, Jehovah—Who Is He?, Jesus Christ—Who Is He?,* or *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If there is interest, demonstrate a Bible study using the *Bible Teach* book or one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever.* **January and February**: Feature one of the following 32-page brochures: *Does God Really Care About Us?, When Someone You Love Dies,* or *You Can Be God's Friend!* When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study. **March:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits, introduce the *Bible Teach* book or if more appropriate to the person's needs, one of the brochures *Listen to God* or *Listen to God and Live Forever,* and try to start a Bible study.

■ The Memorial for **2014** will be on Monday, April 14.

■ Publishers auxiliary pioneering during March 2013 will have the option of working toward a 30-hour or a 50-hour requirement for the month. Additionally, if the circuit overseer is visiting the congregation in March, all who are serving as auxiliary pioneers are invited to attend the *entire* meeting the circuit overseer has with the regular pioneers.

Sample Presentations

To Start Bible Studies on the First Saturday in January

"We would like to ask your opinion. What would you say God's personal name is? [Allow for response.] Notice what we read here." Hand the householder the January 1 *Watchtower,* point out the article on the back cover, and consider together the material under the first subheading and at least one of the scriptures. Offer the magazines, and arrange to return to discuss the next question.

THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM January 1

"A lot of people have been talking about the end of the world. Do you think that the end of the world is something we should fear? [Allow for response.] According to this, there will be some survivors. [Read 1 John 2:17.] This magazine gives the Bible's answer to four common questions about the end of the world."

Awake!® January

"We are visiting as a public service to families. Do you think it's important for families to put into practice these words of Jesus? [Read Acts 20:35b. Then allow for response.] Teaching children to be unselfish can be a real challenge in a world where many seem to think only of themselves. This article outlines some practical ways for parents to raise their children to be considerate of others."

Field Service Highlights

We are pleased to report a new all-time peak in the Bahamas during the month of July! The total of 191 regular pioneers was an increase of 14 over the previous peak set in March 2012. In addition, when comparing the first 11 months of this service year with the same period last year, Bermuda had an increase of 6.3 percent in Bible studies, the Turks and Caicos Islands had an increase of 7.6 percent in publishers, and the United States had an increase of 4.5 percent in regular pioneers. Truly, Jehovah's people are following the admonition to "let your light shine."—Matt. 5:16.